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A

NARRATIVE

OF

THE EXPEDITION

SENT BY HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

TO

THE RIVER NIGER,

IN 1841.

UNDER THE COMMAND OF

CAPTAIN H. D. TROTTER, R.N.

BY CAPTAIN WILLIAM ALLEN, R.N.

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OF THE

EXPEDITION TO THE RIVER NIGER.

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Tuesday, September 21.—H.M. steam-vessel 'Wilberforce' sailed from the confluence of the Chadda and the Niger in a state almost as deplorable as that of the little 'Soudan.' Nearly all our crew were sick, more having been daily added to the list since the 19th. Some cases also from the 'Albert' were sent for a passage to the better air of the coast, including two

officers, Mr. Harvey master, and Mr. Coleman assist-ant-surgeon. Our deck was completely covered fore and aft on the port side and a-midships with hammocks and beds. The starboard side was kept tolerably clear for working the vessel, though a few were even there. They were protected as much as possible by means of awnings and curtains, yet when tornadoes came on, the rain could not always be excluded. No serious inconvenience however accrued, and it was far better they should be in the fresh open air than in the confined space allotted for the men, even if there had been room enough. Some officers were in the captain's cabin and gun-room.

Commander W. Allen was very unwell in the morning, having been much exhausted by the late animated discussions; so that when Captain Trotter, accompanied by Commander B. Allen, came on board to say farewell, and deliver his instructions, he found it necessary to leave them with Lieutenant Strange, to be given to William Allen when he should be better. The latter was much grieved at this separation from his esteemed friends and colleagues, with whom, until the recent occasion, there had been no difference of opinion. It was doubly painful to him thus to separate; for while admiring the generous zeal with which they determined on prosecuting the enterprise, he deeply regretted being precluded from the possibility of accompanying them; and he could not stifle the fear and presentiment of its fatal result, which were too surely

verified. It was the last time he saw poor Bird Allen.

As there were so many cases of fever now in the 'Wilberforce,' and only one medical man, Dr. Pritchett—Assistant-Surgeons Thomson and Stirling having been lent to 'Soudan'—Captain Trotter, on application, sent Assistant-Surgeon Woodhouse.

An exchange was made with the clergymen;—the Rev. Mr. Müller coming on board 'Wilberforce,' and Mr. Schön joining the 'Albert,' for the purpose of extending—as far as that vessel might go—his observations on the disposition of the chiefs to receive missionaries, which was indeed the peculiar object of that reverend gentleman in accompanying the expedition.

Lieutenant Strange took charge of the navigation of the 'Wilberforce,' which he conducted with great skill, and we rapidly descended as far as the new town of Adda Kuddu, where we were obliged to anchor to procure some firewood, as the 'Albert' having a longer voyage, could spare us but a small quantity of coals, of which she had not much more than ourselves. Fortunately we were not long delayed here: about twelve hours' fuel were purchased, thanks to the good will of our excellent old friend the Anajàh. He had long been expecting a promised present, which our multifarious and painful occupations had deferred. A handsome *tobe* and some other useful articles were now sent to him.

At 2 P.M. we weighed anchor. Current and stream

carried us with such rapidity, that it required the utmost vigilance to avoid the numerous rocks with which the bed of the river is studded for twenty-five miles below the Confluence. At this full season they were all under water, making them more dangerous. Our frequent narrow escapes kept up a painful excitement among the invalids. Opposite to Bàrraga or Beaufort Island we had a fine view of a section of the stratification:—at one place the sandstone dips 30° to the north, and half a mile to the northward the beds were horizontal.

22*nd*.—Weighed early, and ran quickly past Iddah and Addah-mugu, without communicating with the chiefs. On passing the Oniàh or Eggarah market, we found an immense number of canoes huddled together among the bushes. As there was no dry spot on the island, the transactions were of necessity carried on afloat; and judging from the noise and commotion—to which in all probability our presence contributed some of the excitement,—there must have been plenty of business on 'Change.

The locality at which we found the merchants assembled, was not the same as that pointed out to us in going up, as the Oniàh market-place; indeed, the site must be frequently changed, as in the 'Alburkah' in 1832 we passed a large market on the right bank near the Edòh river, which was then called Oniàh or Oriàh. It is probably an appellation of the Ibu people, as there is a town of the same name at the lower confines of

King Obi's dominions. Another reason for thinking so is, that the same market is by the Ibus called Eggarah, which is the name of the nation next above, who frequent it. Several canoes made the attempt

to come alongside, but time was so precious that we would not wait, so left them holding up goats, &c., and vociferating in great disappointment.

9 A.M. Th. 81° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 77°
3 P.M. „ 87° „ „ „ 78°
9 P.M. „ 80° „ „ „ 76°

23*rd*.—Weighed at daylight, on passing the branch of the river which is said to go to Bonny, we were much struck with its reduction in magnitude, from what it appeared in 1833; and if we had not been certain of the locality, we could not have believed it

to be the same. Even in its present overflowed state it carries off but an inconsiderable quantity of water, and cannot be ranked among the principal outlets of the mighty Niger. It appears to be filling up.

Soon after breakfast we anchored off the creek leading to Abòh; a messenger was immediately sent to apprize Obi of our arrival, and to request that he would send off all his canoes with wood, as we were obliged to return without delay to the "salt water." The king replied he was sorry he had no means of assisting us, as all his men were gone to the market; besides which, he said the flood was so high, that it had laid his town under water.

Disappointment made us look with suspicion and dissatisfaction on his answers, which were strengthened by his not coming to see us according to custom. This neglect, after all the benefits we had conferred on him and the warm professions he had made, showed at all events that it was useless putting our trust in such a prince as Obi.

Nevertheless, we had ocular demonstration of the overflowed state of the banks, the water being much higher than when we were here before; and as we knew so many of his canoes were at the Oniàh market, we perhaps judged him too hardly.

We learned from our visitors, that the 'Soudan' had passed three days previously without stopping, except to land Simon Jonas. This is the individual whom Obi had requested might be left with him to teach his

people. It was at first decided that he should then remain, but Mr. Müller the chaplain, and Mr. Schön the church missionary, thought his usefulness would be much increased by a little longer stay with them, when his faith might be confirmed and his understanding enlarged by their instruction. The king was therefore told at the time, that his wishes should be gratified on our return. When however, the necessity of sending the 'Soudan' away, proved that we should not be able to remain much longer in the river, Simon was sent to do what good he might, in the short time he would have to stay.

Immediately on our arrival, he came on board to pay his respects, and said that the king had been very kind to him. It did not appear, that he had made any beginning in his pastoral duties; for the king, anxious to derive as much advantage as possible from his civilized countryman, had conferred upon him the dignity of chief tailor, thus showing a determination to begin by reforming his outward man. Simon however said that the people were desirous of being instructed. He was tolerably well lodged by the king, but complained that his allowance of provisions was small and precarious. In order, therefore, that he might not be altogether dependent on the despot's bounty, we supplied him amply with articles for barter, to procure for himself the necessaries of life, as well as to gain popularity by making occasional presents. This we were enabled to do, by the libe-

rality of our fair countrywomen; and as we thought this a good opportunity for carrying out their charitable intentions,—which our hasty departure had hitherto prevented our complying with,—a considerable number of female dresses were left with him, and he was strictly charged whenever he gave them away, that he should confine his bounty to those for whom they were intended, namely, the scantily-clad females of his acquaintance; this injunction was the more necessary, as a gift of one of these dresses had been oddly perverted.

On our way up the river, we presented Ukasa, our friend of Oniàh, with a pink gauze frock, which we had admired on the graceful form of a fair young friend, and although he was told to bear it to his "mistress dear," he lost no time in forcing his own black carcase into the delicate garment, and was delighted with the improvement in his appearance, explaining that he thought it became him singularly well, and he hoped we should speedily return with fresh supplies of such "gauds."

The messenger who was sent by Obi seemed much concerned at finding the deck covered with sick officers and men; though he knew it would be so, as it is a bad country above; but it was at this time unhealthy even at Abòh.

A request was forwarded through Simon Jonas to the king, enjoining him to have plenty of wood ready for the 'Albert,' as that vessel might be expected in a few

days. Though Obi gave no assistance, we procured a small quantity of fuel from some private individuals; yet as no canoes came after five o'clock, we were obliged to be content, especially as our Krumen who had been sent on shore to cut wood, had not found a convenient place. We therefore weighed, in the hope of being able to gain a good many miles before sunset; but the navigation was so intricate, that we could not make more than ten miles before darkness obliged us to anchor.

From appearances one might have thought that several of our invalids were improving. The fever had now assumed such variety of character, that it was frequently very deceptive, and Dr. Pritchett declared some to be in considerable danger who did not appear to be in the least conscious of it, but insisted they were nearly well, and complained of the restraint put upon their restlessness, which they mistook for returning strength. Mr. Wakeham the purser, seemed to be past recovery.

9 A.M. Th. 81° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 77°
3 P.M. „ 87° „ „ „ 79°
9 P.M. „ 79° „ „ „ 76°

24*th.*—Sailed at daylight, but the wood was found to be so bad and green, that we could only go on slowly. We attempted to cut some at Stirling Island, where the land was also submerged, and the Krumen could find no footing. At the village of Hellebolùh we rejoiced to see some large stacks of convenient sized

billets lying on the bank, as if purposely prepared for us. Mr. Green was sent to purchase, and induce the natives to cut more. On landing, they met him with muskets in their hands and showed at first strong disposition to be hostile. We watched their proceedings from on board, and were particularly alarmed at seeing a man behind a bush cock his gun, and expected that his next movement would have deprived us of an officer or of a man, and be the signal for the destruction of these misguided people, as our few marines were ready with their rifles; but they fortunately seemed to be content with watching Mr. Green, who made no progress in treating for the wood. At first they said we might have it all if we would go away immediately, for the ship "was no good." Afterwards they sold a small quantity, but at a dear rate, and they were so long haggling about it, that we could wait no longer, and regretted the *dash* which had been thrown away on these savages; for they appeared to deserve that appellation more than any of the natives we had come in contact with. For some time they could not or would not understand an Ibu interpreter, although from the vicinity of that country—not being more distant than forty miles—we might conclude there would be frequent intercourse. Still the intestine divisions are so great that the natives of these little villages do not go much beyond their boundaries, and all the trade with Ibu is monopolised by King Boy, as the Ibus never pass their frontiers. The Delta

is said, indeed, to have many dialects, hardly intelligible at a little distance from each other.

The river had risen so high that the people were walking among the huts mid-leg in the water; and marks on the mud walls proved it to have been even two feet higher this season.

At the next village we were again tantalized by the appearance of abundance of wood ready cut, in very large stacks. The natives having expressed their willingness to sell it, if we would go on shore and arrange about the price,—Mr. Strange, the First Lieutenant, made the attempt, but he could do nothing with them. We therefore left this inhospitable place; having wasted much valuable time, steam, and patience; and above all,—that which may be of most importance to these poor short-sighted people—such instances cannot but have the effect of diminishing the interest, which all have taken in their behalf: if ever the inhabitants of the Delta shall become so far civilized as to appreciate the motives of philanthropy which prompted such exertions, they will look with shame on the records of their refusal to assist those who were suffering so much to benefit them.

We were obliged to anchor for the night, soon after leaving this place, having made but a limited distance during the day.

9 A.M. Th. 81° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 76°

9 P.M. „ 77° „ „ „ 75°

25*th*.—We proceeded at daylight. Unfortunately

when we were only about twenty miles from the sea our fuel ran short. The stokers having participated in the general anxiety to leave the river, had taken every opportunity of burning coal, when wood was ordered to be used. The consequence was, that the engineer was deceived as to the quantity, and surprised to find it all consumed when he believed there was sufficient to carry us to the mouth of the river, —if not over the bar. Our Krumen cut about four hours' supply with great difficulty, as the water covered the banks. At the margin of the river the men were standing in a swamp up to mid-leg; but further in they had to work with the water up to their hips. In other places we have observed that the land is lower at a little distance from the river; which had led to the supposition that artificial embankments had been raised; but though this may be the case where there are villages, it could not be so in this swampy and uninhabitable region, where solitude is so perfect that not a vestige of the operations of human industry was visible; we were therefore surprised at seeing a man paddling in a small canoe. He came on board, spoke very good English, and said he belonged to Akassa, at the mouth of the river.

We proceeded through these narrow and winding reaches with feelings very different to those we experienced in ascending the river. Then the elasticity of health and hope gave to the scenery a colouring of exceeding loveliness. The very silence and solitude

had a soothing influence which invited to meditation and pleasing anticipations for the future. Now it was the stillness of death,—broken only by the strokes and echoes of our paddle-wheels and the melancholy song of the leadsmen, which seemed the knell and dirge of our dying comrades. The palm-trees, erst so graceful in their drooping leaves, were now gigantic hearse-like plumes.

We were borne mournfully along, but without accident, till a strong current swept the vessel into a deep bending of the river, where the bank was overhung with what appeared to be the delicate foliage of shrubs, but which proved to be parasitical plants concealing the stump of a *hard-hearted* African oak, against which we were carried with such violence, that in an instant it tore away our beautiful galley, with the davits, tackles, and all the gear. The destruction was so complete that we might have thought the shattered remains of the boat not worth the time and waste of steam required for their recovery, especially as we had already been taken a considerable distance below the scene of the disaster; when an unearthly yell was heard from the bush, and our people shouted out "The boy! the boy!" A black lad, in fact, had been heaving the lead from this boat, in which he now made a novel voyage. We had therefore to return and rescue him from his awkward situation. He was found perched in the bush, and fortunately unhurt.

In order that Captain Trotter might not be alarmed

at seeing the wreck of the boat on the bank, when he should come down the river, a hawser was made fast, and though perfectly useless, we dragged her off by main force.

This unfortunate accident caused great loss of time and expenditure of steam; so that when we had arrived at the lowest reach of the river—having continuous banks—it was already half ebb-tide, and as the channel was shallow and intricate, there was great danger of our being detained all night in this, the very worst part of the river, which would doubtless have cost the lives of many. Already had the retreating tide left the arching roots of the mangrove—*rhyzophora*—dripping with the slimy fetid remains of animal and vegetable matter, rife with threatening fevers. This was opposite to Louis Creek*, and is perhaps the most difficult part of the river, where, ceasing to be confined by firm banks, the water is diffused among the mangroves, and leaves in consequence, but little to scour a channel in the natural course of the stream, which though broad is much obstructed by shallows. No person knew the right channel but Commander W. Allen, who had already passed through it three times, besides having previously examined it in a boat. He was now fortunately well enough to pilot the vessel by stationing himself on the bowsprit, with a leadsman on each bow,

* Vol. I., p. 177.

who for some time called out the soundings as fast as possible. The danger may be imagined, when we say that the vessel drew five feet three inches, and the depth for some distance varied from five feet six inches to six feet. On entering Louis Creek the water gradually deepened, till we emerged from it in deep water, and in sight of the sea; on which the few men remaining on deck gave three cheers. But the joy which seemed to brighten all countenances at the near prospect of leaving this fatal river, could not fail speedily to give way to gloomy reflections, on the contrast which our present forlorn condition formed, with our brilliant anticipations on entering the Niger but little more than a month ago.

We anchored at sunset with the last gasp of steam near our former berth, just within Cape Nun, so that we could have the benefit of the sea-breezes.

The greater part of our sick were apparently recovering, but there was one whose hopes and confidence had been of the highest, who was now fast drawing to the termination of his earthly voyages. To poor Mr. Cyrus Wakeham, purser, the freshness of the sea-breeze could bring no relief. He was past consciousness.

The only occupant of this dreary estuary of the Niger was a small English schooner, the 'Selina,' trading in palm-oil. We looked in vain in the offing for one of the cruizers of the squadron, which we expected to find where the 'Buzzard' had been so

many months, though if one had been lying there she could not have rendered us any assistance, as all we required was fuel, which our Kroomen could cut.

9 A.M. Th. 77° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 75°
3 P.M. „ 83° „ „ 75°
9 P.M. „ 77° „ „ 75°

Sunday, September 26th.—Heavy rain in the morning,—a melancholy sabbath. Divine service was performed in the captain's cabin to a very small congregation; of the whole ship's company, only fourteen were well enough to attend. Mr. Cyrus Wakeham died last night. He was from the first the most hopeless of all our cases, though he would hardly believe himself to be in danger. He had great faith in the system of total abstinence from all fermented liquors, which he pursued, and wished all to follow his example. However, his case proved that such means were not sufficient for averting the fatal effects of the fever. Indeed we had a case of one confirmed drunkard escaping entirely. The middle course, of moderation in all things, appears to be the safest. Poor Wakeham could not be prevailed on to allow his bed to be placed on deck, where he could have had the benefit of fresh air; for notwithstanding he had a little port in his cabin, the position of his bed-place prevented him from deriving any advantage from it.

The Krumen were employed all day cutting wood on shore, to enable us to leave the river with as little delay as possible.

9 A.M. Th. 79° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 76°
3 P.M. „ 77° „ „ 74°
9 P.M. „ 77° „ „ 74·5

27*th.*—It rained the greater part of the day, and sometimes in torrents. As therefore, it would have been an unnecessary exposure for the clergyman and the officers to have attended the last sad duties to their late messmate, the funeral service was read on board; after which the corpse was sent on shore at Cape Nun, to be laid in the earth at a point indicated. A board with a painted inscription, showing his name, age, and the date of his death, marked the spot.

The master of the little schooner, the 'Selina,' kindly sent his Krumen to assist ours in cutting wood. They all wished to be taken on board the 'Wilberforce,' making serious complaints and charges against him for ill-treatment and cruelty, which they alleged had already caused the death of three white men. After such an inquiry, however, as could be made under the circumstances, it was found that several of the white men of the vessel had died of fever, of which the master was also lying dangerously ill. Assistant-Surgeon Woodhouse was sent to render him medical assistance; but it appeared, that if guilty of such cruelties, he would shortly be summoned before a higher tribunal*. They reported having seen

* This vessel afterwards came into Clarence Cove, Fernando Po, the men being in a state of mutiny from alleged cruelty on the part

a schooner in one of the creeks which was supposed to be a slaver.

9 A.M. Th. 79° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 76°
3 P.M. „ 80° „ „ „ 75°
9 P.M. „ 77° „ „ „ 75°
28*th*.—9 A.M. Th. 81° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 76°
3 P.M. „ 77° „ „ „ 76°
9 P.M. „ 79° „ „ „ 76°

Wednesday, 29th Sept.—This was the fourth day we had been detained by the necessity for cutting a sufficient supply of fuel to take us on our little sea-voyage to Fernando Po, which appeared to go on but slowly, as there was no officer to look after the Krumen. The impatience to get away, perhaps, prevented our making allowance for the great difficulty under which they had to labour, cutting down trees in a swamp in some places up to their knees in water, and even to their middle, and with torrents of rain pouring on them the whole day, yet these poor fellows laboured cheerfully; in order to redeem their character, after having been taxed with idleness, they worked much beyond the time fixed for our departure: this added to the delay in sending the medical man for a last visit to the sick in the schooner,

of the supercargo. An inquiry was made into the circumstances, but nothing was elicited to authorize Captain Trotter to interfere. All the white crew refused to serve any longer, and she took her departure, trusting to the Krumen; but we afterwards heard she had been picked up at sea abandoned, under what circumstances we know not.

made it so late, when we weighed to leave the Niger, that high water—the best time for crossing the bar—was already past. Nevertheless, it was tolerably smooth. We stood out to sea to get a good offing, and then steered for Fernando Po with very beautiful weather.

9 A.M. Th. 80° wet bulb, Mason's Hygr. 76°
3 P.M. „ 83° „ „ „ 78°
9 P.M. „ 80° „ „ „ 77°

30*th*.—Mr. Green the second master, and a stoker who had assisted in working the engine, were taken sick this morning. We had now only one officer, Lieutenant Strange, and one engineer, doing duty. Some of the sick felt better, but others found the sudden change from the close atmosphere of the river to the fresh sea-breeze too much for them. The weather continued fine.

Friday, October 1*st*.—In the evening we saw the lofty peak of Fernando Po in the distance, and expected to be off Cape Bullen the following morning at day-light, but, on approaching, heavy rains and dense clouds completely shrouded the island until we were close to it, when we discovered that a strong current had drifted the vessel past Clarence Cove: we reached the anchorage at 9 P.M., and found lying there H.M. steam-vessels 'Pluto' and 'Soudan.' The latter was in a most deplorable condition: Lieutenant Fishbourne, who had been sent in temporary command,

was ill of fever, caused by his great exertions in bringing the vessel down the river.

In obedience to Captain Trotter's orders, the first anxiety was to get the 'Soudan' ready as soon as possible to rejoin him up the river; as there was but too much reason to fear that he would require assistance.

We must now take our readers back to the Confluence, where it will be remembered how rapidly the fever progressed in the several vessels, and that it was considered to be most expedient to send the 'Soudan' down to the sea with the sick. On the evening of the 18th of September, she received thirteen cases of fever from the 'Albert,' and on the following morning six additional from the 'Wilberforce,' making together with those of her own crew already in the list, upwards of forty cases. The weather was intensely hot.

Before the 'Soudan's' departure, Commander Bird Allen came on board to take leave of his former shipmates, by whom he was univerally esteemed for his many fine qualities. How little was it then thought, that in so short a time his loss would be another deep cause of regret to the officers of the expedition.

Soon after noon the 'Soudan' got under weigh, in charge of Lieutenant Fishbourne, to take the sick to the coast. Assistant-Surgeon Stirling was sent on board to assist Mr. Thomson in the medical duties.

At this time, nearly all the white men, and even some of the coloured West-Indians, were laid down with fever, leaving only Mr. Sidney and four men able to move about, and do duty; of this number fortunately two were stokers, who had some little knowledge of the management of the engines. Every place on deck and below was crowded with sick, either worn out and exhausted by the continuance of fever, or in the more active and excited stages.

In the commander's small cabin were two officers, Lieutenant Ellis and Mr. Marshall; in the gun-room Lieutenant Harston and Mr. Waters, clerk-in-charge; forward were two engineers in their cabins, and Mr. Belam, master, in the small midshipman's berth; while the foremost compartment and decks were hung over with the cots and hammocks of the sufferers; the latter under proper awnings, but so thickly stowed that when administering remedies and food, it was necessary to pass or step from one over the other. Lieutenant Fishbourne pushed the little steamer onwards, and with a current in her favour, rapidly descended the river.

All the fair scenery which on the upward course had been gazed on with so much pleasure and enthusiasm was now passed unheeded, the pressing wants of the sick demanded the every attention and diligence of both medical officers. Lieutenant Fishbourne's duties requiring him to be constantly and anxiously engaged in directing the course of the vessel.

On the 20th an unclouded sky and most sultry condition of the atmosphere added to the sick list the only remaining executive officer, Mr. Sidney; a quarter-master and a marine, who had previously been rather indisposed; thus all the executive duty fell on Lieutenant Fishbourne. Poor Perrham, a stoker, was also suffering, but as he was the only one who could safely keep the engine going, he took medicine and laid himself down near the engine-room hatch on deck, from which he was raised when his services were imperatively required. The sufferings of the sick altogether were much aggravated by the suffocating state of the air, and but for the frequent sponging and fanning of the most debilitated, the ultimate results would have probably been more unfavourable than they were.

The vomiting was a very distressing symptom, and increased by the urgent thirst which induced the sufferers to drink largely. The most efficacious remedy was an occasional small effervescing powder with slight excess of alkali or total abstinence from fluid for a short time.

On the 21st, the 'Soudan' was well down the river, and passing rapidly through the pestiferous delta. Thomas, a carpenter's mate, breathed his last about noon, and at night, just as the 'Soudan' had anchored at the mouth of the river, Mr. W. B. Marshall, acting-surgeon, entered on that happy change for which in the time of health he had so long and earnestly been preparing himself. From the first his case had been

a most severe one, attended with almost constant irritability of stomach; but he would never be persuaded to continue the requisite means, or to abstain from drinking largely of tea, lemonade, &c., which increased it. In his death the expedition lost an active medical officer, and the African a most devoted friend. His remains were interred at Cape Nun, not far from where Back the instrument-maker had been buried on the first arrival of the 'Albert.'

Early on the 22nd, the 'Soudan' was under steam and crossed the bar, where she met the 'Dolphin,' on board of which vessel thirty-five of the sick were sent, retaining seven who were recovering, and two, Mr. Waters and Lewis Wolfe, who being in a dying state, were quite unfit to be removed. Mr. Stirling, assistant-surgeon, being unwell, it was considered advisable to send him also.

Under the circumstances, without officers, engineers, or fuel, it would have been impossible for the 'Soudan' to proceed to Ascension, and most fortunate was the 'Dolphin's' proximity; thus enabling the sick to be forwarded at once by her. The kindness and attention received by them on the passage will always be a subject of grateful remembrance.

In the afternoon the 'Soudan' made the best of her way to Fernando Po. Poor Waters lingered until about ten o'clock in the evening, when he expired. His case commenced with bad symptoms on the

10th,—a very sultry day,—after having been exposed for some time in the sun. At first strong excitement was present, speedily followed by depression of spirits. On the 19th, he sent for the chaplains of the 'Wilberforce' and 'Albert,' to whom he stated his anticipations that his earthly career was soon to close; every endeavour to raise his drooping spirits was in vain. After his decease some rough copies of verses, &c., were discovered, strongly illustrative of the interest he took in the cause of heathen Africa. His remains were unavoidably consigned to the deep on the following morning, Lieutenant Fishbourne reading the funeral service.

At all times, this ritual at sea is full of deep interest, but now that the excitement consequent on the many duties had passed off, leaving Lieutenant Fishbourne and his companion tired and nervous, solemn and sad thoughts succeeded which the occasion improved. Such are indeed, the seasons favourable to a train of calm and searching reflection; when we find our fond imaginings to be but vanity, and our brightest visions as illusory as the passing cloud. How gladly do we then turn to embrace the cheering promise, that there remains a rest to those who seek it! but, alas! too often only to forget it at some future time, and to trust once more to the anticipated successes of our own creative fancy.

On the 23rd, Christopher Bigley, stoker, whose

partial knowledge of the engine had been so useful during the last three days, was added to the sick list, being quite unfit for the least duty. Lieutenant Fishbourne was therefore himself obliged to keep the engine working until they reached Clarence Cove, Fernando Po, where the arrival of the other vessels was awaited with anxiety. Some of the sick improved, but Lewis Wolfe, a quiet and well-behaved young man from the 'Albert,' breathed his last on the 27th, worn to a shadow by a disease which resisted every remedy. He was the first of the Expedition buried at Fernando Po. His remains were laid in the small spot appropriated as a burying-place, where so soon afterwards Captain Bird Allen, and several other brave spirits, found a last resting-place. On the 30th, Lieutenant Fishbourne was laid down with violent fever; and on the arrival of 'Wilberforce,' was removed to that vessel; Mr. Strange, first Lieutenant, was put in temporary command of 'Soudan,' with orders to get ready with all possible dispatch. That officer had fortunately been proof against the effects of the climate which had prostrated nearly all others.

As there was no diminution of the sick list, but on the contrary, many were still in a very dangerous state, Commander Allen was resolved to leave Fernando Po as soon as possible,—its reputation for unhealthiness being second only to the fatal Niger,—and to proceed to Ascension, as the best means under Providence of enabling the crew of 'Wilberforce' to

recover their health. For this step he had discretionary power given him by Captain Trotter.

The task of preparing the ship for sea was one of no ordinary difficulty, as there were no officers, and few men being able to do duty. The decks were so encumbered by the sick, that there was very little room to work. But, in the belief that the pure air of the wide ocean must have a beneficial effect, every exertion was made with a view to try the climate to the southward of the equator as early as possible, and eventually to go to Ascension.

In consequence of the death of two pursers, surveys were to be held on the remains of provisions in the 'Wilberforce' and 'Soudan;' the holds were to be cleaned out; provisions, water, sails, and running-rigging were to be brought on board; besides the very laborious work of coaling.

In the dusk of one evening there was great excitement among all, by the report of a vessel having been seen in the offing; and as it was said the stranger looked like a steamer, all believed it to be our companion the 'Albert.' 'Soudan' was therefore ordered to get up steam, and go to assist her to the anchorage if necessary. However, on clearing the point of Clarence Cove, nothing was to be seen, and she returned. No one could tell how the report had originated: but all were willing to believe what we daily expected.

Thursday, October 2nd.—One of our stokers died

to-day. His case was the opposite to that of poor Mr. Wakeham; having been in fact, a very drunken character. In the evening, Mr. Harvey, master of the 'Albert,' died, after a long and painful struggle. He was for the last few days distressed by a constant hiccup, which increased to such an extent that his whole frame was most fearfully shaken and convulsed by it. Christopher Bigley, stoker, of 'Soudan,' was also added to the list of dead; his loss was much regretted, for he had, poor fellow, exerted himself greatly, and had even continued at the engine while in a high state of fever. Commander W. Allen was very unwell to-day, having been much harassed and fatigued by constant exertion.

Dr. Vogel the botanist, and Mr. Roscher the geologist, who appeared to be in a degree convalescent, thought they would be better on shore. Being unaccustomed to the confinement of a ship, it was not surprising that they should wish to be on terrâ firmâ.

The former highly-talented gentleman, whose ardour in pursuit of his favourite science was limited only by his delicate frame, wished very much to have been landed at the model farm when we came away, though he was at the time dangerously ill. Commander W. Allen succeeded in inducing him to leave a place which would have been inevitably fatal to him, by assurances that he should be left at Fernando Po, where he would find a field for his exertions equally rich and new. Remonstrances were now renewed,

pointing out the great risk he would incur by remaining, in his then weak state, in a climate so unhealthy as this was known to be; and we endeavoured to show him the advantage of recruiting his strength at Ascension, when he might be able not only to return to Fernando Po, but even to make another and a more successful voyage up the Niger. All arguments were, however, unavailing. He seemed to think he had once been inveigled away from his proper field of usefulness, and he was determined it should not be done again. A house was therefore procured for these gentlemen, such arrangements were made for their comfort as our limited means would allow, and also to further their project of ascending the mountain, as high as a road had been cut by Colonel Nicolls, about 4000 feet above the sea. Doubtless, if they could have accomplished this journey, the cool temperature of that altitude would have been of great service in restoring them to health.

Mr. Müller, our excellent chaplain, had been solicited by some of the black settlers to administer baptism to a large number of children, but he very much disappointed them, for he found not only the neophytes but the parents utterly ignorant of the nature of the religion which they proposed so conveniently to adopt. Mr. Müller was too conscientious a Christian to administer the sign of regeneration to whole flocks of pseudo-Christians.

In the afternoon he performed service on board,

preaching emphatically on the propriety of showing gratitude to the Almighty Preserver for having permitted us to escape the great dangers which had beset us.

On the 5th, Mr. Coleman, assistant-surgeon, died. He was a most exemplary and consistent Christian; almost his last words were "I have no fears for the future." While he uttered these, his countenance assumed a placid cheerfulness that was really affecting.

The 'Ethiope' merchant-steamer arrived last night. This small vessel belonged to Mr. Jamieson, a merchant of Liverpool, who employed her in bringing palm-oil from the native depôts at the mouths of the rivers to his ships, which were stationed at a healthy part of Fernando Po. This of course entailed considerable additional expense, but he was actuated by the benevolent intention of preserving the crews from the deadly effects of the swamps, on the banks of the rivers where the palm-oil is produced in abundance, but where ships are usually detained so long while it is collected by the dilatory native traders, that it is attended with great sacrifice of life.

The commander of the 'Ethiope,' Mr. Beecroft, a fine old veteran of the coast, had resided many years at Fernando Po, and knew more of this part of Africa and the natives than any other European. He had already made a trading voyage up the Niger in the steamer 'Quorra,' belonging to the first disastrous expedition; and had even proceeded about fifty miles

beyond Rabba, the farthest point of Lander and Allen.

To his great experience, this gentleman joined a high and generous mind; and it seemed as if he was a fitting instrument sent by Providence to attempt the rescue of the 'Albert' from the perilous position in which she was supposed to be. Accordingly, when Commander W. Allen proposed the undertaking, Mr. Beecroft at once frankly acceded to it, his employer, Mr. Jamieson, having given him instructions to render any assistance in his power to the Expedition.

The vessel was supplied with coal from the Government stores for the purpose. In the mean time a complaint was examined into, which Mr. Beecroft preferred against his head Kruman, for having struck the engineer. This was easily arranged by the former acknowledging his error and begging pardon, after a severe lecture; but it appeared that there were faults on both sides,—indeed it is very rare that the Krumen exhibit anything like insubordination, so great is the *prestige* of the white man.

In this case we were fortunately able to testify strongly to the good character of the culprit, Grey, as he had served in the capacity of head Kruman of the 'Alburkah' in the expedition of 1832-3, when, with one exception, he had conducted himself in a most exemplary manner.

A melancholy visit was made to the remains of the

two vessels, 'Quorra' and 'Alburkah,' which performed that unsuccessful and fatal voyage. They were lying on the shore in the next cove, called Goodrich Bay. As Captain Allen had passed a

whole year in the Niger on board the little 'Alburkah,' it was with some degree of painful interest,—which a sailor usually feels for a vessel he has long served in,—that he saw the poor little craft lying high and dry on the shore, in rapid decay; the decks were gone, and the iron of the hull so corroded that there were many large holes through the sides. The engines and boilers were lying scattered about in fragments, and nearly concealed by the tangled vegetation on the beach. The 'Quorra' being of wood had been broken up, and people were burning her

timbers for the purpose of getting the copper bolts, to assist in building a schooner which had been a long while on the stocks, with but little chance of ever being finished, as the workmen were very unwilling to take employment.

October 7th.—The 'Ethiope' sailed for the mouth of the Niger, with the intention of proceeding up the river until the 'Albert' could be met with.

On the 9th, the 'Soudan' being ready, sailed for N.W. Bay, in this island, in order to hire some Krumen, previously to going to the Niger, according to Captain Trotter's directions.

By the evening the preparations of the 'Wilberforce' were completed, having been materially forwarded by the assistance of the officers and crew of H.M.S.V. 'Pluto.' The necessity for going to sea was very much increased by the circumstance of the first and only remaining engineer Mr. Johnston, being at last taken ill with fever, owing in a great measure, to his constant exertions. Another strong reason for getting away from this place was the unfortunate facility which the convalescents had in procuring rum of the very worst description, which caused many a relapse. No exhortations could deter them, and we had not means to prevent it.

In consequence of our weak state, there being no officers to assist the captain, he thought it necessary to take the 'Pluto' under his orders, to accompany the 'Wilberforce' as far as might be required.

CHAPTER II.

The 'Wilberforce' leaves Fernando Po—Visits Prince's Island—Madame Ferreira—Island of St. Thomas—A Yankee skipper—Ilha das Rollas—Souffleurs—Variety of pigeons—Wild boars—Negro residents—Their superstitions—Watering place, St. Thomas——Monkey plum-tree—Annobone—Governor Tom Joe, his prerogatives—A noisy market afloat—Singular religious procession—Poverty of the inhabitants—Appearance of the town—Guinea-fowl shooting—Visit to the Mountain lake—Gothic arch of palm trees—Scarcity of fuel—Flying fish—Ascension—Its desolate look—Magnetic observations—Proceedings at that island—Arrival of Her Majesty's brig 'Buzzard'—Melancholy information respecting the 'Albert'—Reported murder of Mr. Carr, and attack on the settlers at the Model Farm.

H.M.S. V., 'WILBERFORCE,' October 9th, at 8 P.M., put to sea from Fernando Po in a very miserable plight, truly "more like a wreck than a man-of-war." We had hastily taken on board one hundred tons of coals,—being much more than we could stow in the bunkers. Owing to our anxiety to get away, there was not time to trim the ship, and she consequently steered so badly that until this was remedied, it was quite impossible to keep a proper course. We had no officers except Commander Wm. Allen, and one engineer lent

from the 'Pluto,' assisted by one of the remaining stokers, who was fortunately able to work the engine; and there were only two seamen and a very few marines or idlers, able to do duty. We were, therefore, fortunate in having to navigate a sea where bad weather is scarcely known. The 'Pluto' was in company with us. Mr. Commissioner Cook kindly kept watch greater part of the first night.

We had a contrary wind in our voyage towards Prince's Island, which was our first stage, but the weather was fine.

October 12th.—The high land of Prince's Island was seen at daylight. In running along the coast we were much struck with the beauty and singularity of the bold peaks, clothed with wood to the very summit. Among these the "Parrot's Bill" is the most remarkable, shooting up like a gigantic crystal from the dense forest. We anchored in West Bay, surrounded by beautiful scenery. 'Pluto' had arrived before us.

The greater part of the invalids have already felt the benefit of change of air, nevertheless another death was added to our list to-day,—Serjeant Cuthbertson, of the Royal Marines,—who appeared to be recovering, suddenly relapsed, and expired in the evening. He was an excellent man, and left a widow and several children to deplore his loss.

We arranged with Madame Ferreira for a supply of firewood, which she keeps ready cut for the cruisers on

the coast, at the rate of one hundred billets for a dollar.

This lady, of Portuguese parents, was the widow of the late governor, who was previously judge. With the laudable intention of introducing improvements in the cultivation and management of her estates, on her return to Prince's from a visit to Europe, she brought with her a numerous suite of white persons and their families, among whom fever soon however, made fearful ravages. Two remarkably handsome Spanish boys, like the finest conceptions of Murillo, had, since their arrival, lost their father, mother, a brother and a sister. The European gardener, his wife and three daughters, as well as the young daughter of M. Fretus, Madame Ferreira's factotum, were lying ill with the fever. The latter we saw lying on a couch,—a most interesting and picturesque object.

This enterprising lady seemed most anxious to carry into effect numerous plans for the benefit of the island, and had commenced by erecting mills for sugar, oil, and for sawing timber. Abundance of seeds brought from Spain flourished among the rocks in the garden around her house, mingled with beautiful indigenous flowers. All her property in West Bay she was desirous of selling to the English Government, alleging the persecutions of the Governor of the island, who had involved her in many lawsuits on charges—whether just or unjust we could not ascertain—of being engaged in the slave trade. However this may

be, the English officers belonging to the squadron have ever been received by her with great hospitality and kindness.

The climate is unhealthy even for the natives, except in December, January, and February, when it is comparatively dry; though at West Bay it is said there is no day throughout the year without rain. Heavy mists sweeping round the lofty peaks give additional grandeur, and make them sometimes appear as if overhanging the bay. After curling and playing about the ravines of the mountains, these mists suddenly descend, and deluge the shores.

We had two new cases of fever here, though slight, as have been all those which have occurred since we left the Niger.

14*th*.—Having taken on board as much wood as we could stow—about two thousand billets—and water, we sailed in the evening in company with H.M. steam vessel 'Pluto.' None of our officers were as yet sufficiently recovered to do duty. We were in such a state that there are few parts of the globe where we could have ventured to put to sea. But although no bad weather was to be apprehended, we had to encounter a fresh head wind; so that we made but slow progress against it.

15*th*.—Very fine weather;—a delighful contrast to the heavy damp atmosphere of Prince's, which may truly be called the "watery gem of the ocean." The sick which had hitherto been all on deck under

awnings were now of necessity put below, as the breeze being against us, the latter held so much wind, that until they were furled, we made but little progress. As we drew near the Island of St. Thomas, the wind altered from south-west to the eastward of south, with smooth water. After dusk the numerous lights in the fishermen's canoes had a very brilliant effect. We anchored at 8h. 30m. P.M. in four fathoms, at the north end of the Island St. Thomas, in Man-of-War Bay, where the 'Pluto' had arrived long before us.

The shore of the bay is lined with a dense forest, principally of cocoa-nut trees and palms, from which the natives obtain oil. The first range of hills have all the appearance of volcanic origin, being

truncated cones with hollows near the summits, like craters: they are bare of wood, except in these depressions and the ravines descending from them. The sides at the other parts are covered with dry grass. In the back ground is the lofty mountain Santa Anna de Chaves, 7,000 feet high. Its highest point is a remarkable cone, with a smaller one on either hand.

We found a pretty little river, but its bar could only be crossed by boats at high water; and as the bay is very shallow, vessels lie at a considerable distance, which makes watering here a tedious operation.

Wood was not to be obtained, except from a great way inland; which was not worth the detention. We saw two or three little villages, of poor-looking huts, but the inhabitants were handsome contented-looking negroes. They had apparently plenty of live stock, and fruit in abundance. The oranges, however, though they looked fine, were generally bitter.

A very superior-looking man of colour, named Emanuele, said that the greater part of the coffee on the island was cultivated by free labour. Half of the produce goes to the proprietor and half to the cultivator. His father had five slaves, but when he came to the inheritance there only remained one, whom he sold, to prevent his loss by running away; and has since found free labour to be the best. This information was given almost unasked.

A schooner which at first had been thought to be a slaver, came to the anchorage, and proved to

be an American. The master came on board to have his chronometer rated, which he confessed he did not understand. He was a very amusing person, giving the history of his life in the genuine "Sam Slick" style. On the whole he spoke in flattering terms of England, saying, "the States can stand up against the world, all but the Britishers, who were a'most too strong for them; and that was the truth, as nigh as he could speak it."

19*th*.—We sailed this morning from Man-of-War Bay in company with the 'Pluto.'

Several of the sick were now convalescent, and some of the officers able to do a little duty.

Nothing could be more beautiful than our little voyage close along the eastern shore of St. Thomas's Island. The town of Santa Anna de Chaves at a distance had a pretty appearance. The shores to the southward of this afforded every variety of scenery, waterfalls, hills, craggy precipices, pasturage, and rich woods. The little rocky island of Santa Anna is composed of basaltic columns, almost vertical; and a corresponding formation is seen on the adjacent shore of the larger island. Anchored in the afternoon near the Ilhas das Rollas to cut wood. Though we were close in shore, and protected from the prevalent winds, the heavy swell, which nothing could keep off, caused the vessel to roll about exceedingly.

October 21*st*.—Very heavy rain both yesterday and

to-day suspended all operations, and has produced some new cases of slight fever. Waddington, the best man in the ship, who though in constant exertion and exposure, had escaped while in the river, had a decided attack; but the others were all doing well. Under these circumstances, as the engineers would be able to go to their duty soon, and having two extra men who were able to work the engine, it was considered advisable to detain the 'Pluto' no longer from her cruising-ground. Lieutenant Blount was therefore directed by Commander W. Allen to resume his station, Lieutenant Fishbourne, and Mr. Bowden, the secretary to the commissioners, being both quite restored to health, were sent to rejoin the 'Albert' by the 'Pluto;' as should they succeed falling in with their ship on coming down the river, Captain Trotter would find their services very opportune.

The 'Pluto' sailed at four P.M., and when passing round our bows, gave us three cheers, which our crew could only feebly respond to. A set of observations on dip and intensity were obtained, which were the more important as Commander Allen observed on the same spot at the end of 1833. There are also other reasons for this being an interesting locality for magnetic observations.

This lovely little island, about a mile square, is composed of basalt or lava. The west end shows it most distinctly in high cavernous cliffs, fringed with

festoons of pendant plants. The surf dashes high, and over them, and is sent bellowing back from the caverns in spray of ever changeful forms. There are also on this side some "souffleurs" or blowers, caused by the formation of long passages in the dislocated and loosened lava, through which the sea is forced when the weather is tempestuous, and the rollers strong, —making an exit at little holes eighty or ninety feet from the entrance, in high showery jets, on which the sunbeams produce the most brilliant and varied colours. The prevailing (S. W.) direction of the wind at this part very much influences the vegetation. Instead of the graceful cocoa-nut, which lines the northern shore, and strews its milky fruit in such abundance, the *Pandanus* appears the predominant tree a little way back; while the surface of the immediate cliff is covered with low vegetation of brilliant green, which looks like a gentleman's trimly kept lawn. Boatswain birds in great numbers were wheeling about among the spray. There are two little hills on the island: one from a distance rises like the truncated cone of an extinct volcano, the crater occupied by beautiful trees, near which we shot a great number of wild pigeons, among them were the large *Columba trigonigera*, the head and breast plumbaceous, wings and throat vinaceous, with numerous triangular white spots, from which it receives its name; the *Turtur chalcospilus*, or rufous winged turtle dove; the *Turtur semitorquatus*, or half collared dove; the prettily

marked *Treron crassirostris*, or thick-billed pigeon, since figured by Mr. Frazer; the large grey-headed bush shrike, *Malaconotus olivaceus*, in its grey, yellow, and olive plumage; the orange-breasted bush shrike, *Malaconotus chrysogaster*; the walking drongo, *Melasoma edaloides*, in sober black; but the most important are the wild poultry, which are now beginning to abound, and have already somewhat changed in appearance and cry. The natives state that they are the produce of some stock which escaped from a vessel wrecked on the island many years ago. Those we saw were extremely wild, and flew from tree to tree, uttering a cry quite different to that of the domestic fowl. In the long reedy grass which skirts the western shore, wild pigs are found, one of which we shot with the assistance of a Negro. It was a fine boar, in excellent condition, and had long twisted tusks, capable of inflicting a severe wound, which the natives said occasionally happened in hunting them. These animals were stated to have come on the island in the same way and time as the fowls, but the mode of subsistence has likewise very much changed their characteristics.

The northern shore has several little sandy bays, where shells of great beauty and variety are thrown up; unfortunately for our collections they were all dead and therefore useless, but proved that there must be an abundance in the vicinity.

This picturesque island is not a good wooding place, as the hard-wood trees are few, and

at some distance from the beach; besides which, there is no water; even the few natives who settle here during the fishing season, cannot find enough for their wants in the small quantity of rain which is left in the rocky cavities, but have to substitute the milky juice of the green cocoa-nut, or palm wine,—so plentiful and easily procured. They come over from St. Thomas's Island, and make a precarious subsistence by catching turtle and fish; the latter are salted and dried in the sun. One sort of rock cod, of a fine red colour, is well flavoured, and very abundant. Although brought up in the Roman Catholic religion, the negroes we saw were as full of faith in grigris or charms, as their less educated brethren on the mainland. In several places we noticed little rude objects of clay or wood fastened to sticks, near which were placed small calabashes of palm wine, and bits of fish or yam; and in passing one in a very secluded spot in the woods, the native who accompanied us, put his finger to his mouth in token of silence, and drew us slowly to one side, pointing reverentially to it as an object of religious interest.

On the 23rd we weighed, and stood over to a beautiful inlet in St. Thomas', just opposite to Rollas, which had been previously examined in a boat. Here we purposed watering. This little gulf is surrounded on three sides by steep and richly-covered hills; and although the Ilha das Rollas lying across the entrance

protects it from southerly winds, it cannot arrest the swell which rolls on to the very bottom of the gulf, and lashes with ceaseless fury the rocks all around it. There are three streams at the head of the inlet, one of which seemed to be large, as there was an uninterrupted view some distance up it; though as the whole shore was lined by surf, we did not attempt to land nor to enter with the boat. In a little recess in the rocks, overshadowed by cocoa-nuts, and a great variety of other trees, a beautiful little rill was perceived tumbling over the rocks, where there is fortunately less surf, and boats can easily fill their

casks by leading a hose from the shore. This place is marked by a rock covered with bright green vegetation. The view from it is one of the most beautiful we have

seen. The inlet is perfectly land-locked, and would hold a navy.

> "Sly nooks and solitary bays,
> And coves wherein when peering strays
> The dwindled ship, her sails drop dead
> In sudden calm and darkness shed.
> From red cliffs sulphur-stained with lichens hoar,
> Whose many-cornered fronts above her frowning roar."

This part of the island is well wooded, but does not present much dense underwood. One of the trees, apparently a spondia, was covered with a yellow oblong fruit, having an acid and somewhat resinous flavour; the natives said it was the monkey's plum-tree; and as if to confirm the statement, some of these active little people made their appearance in the branches, but not near enough to be shot. They were of a dark brown colour, with a good deal of white about the upper part of the face. Although they allowed the unarmed natives to approach somewhat close, they kept playing with us at hide-and-seek, until we left them in despair. Wild pigeons and doves are so abundant, that in the evening, at which time they move about to procure food, we brought them down as fast as we could load and fire; and not only were they fine in plumage, but useful for the sick, some of whom were convalescing and quite ready for a little additional fresh food. Having obtained sufficient water and fuel for present use, we made the circuit of the island, to try the strength of the engineers, before returning to our former anchorage, to spend a

quiet Sunday; but the rollers would not suffer us to be quite at rest. Heavy torrents of rain made us anxious to get away, especially as this did not prove to be so good a halting-place for the sick to recover as had been anticipated. Though most of our new cases were of a slight nature, one had taken a turn for the worse, and was in great danger.

October 25th.—Took the vessel over again to the inlet to complete the water. We filled the tanks very easily in the afternoon, by leading a hose from the little stream to the boats, as the unceasing swell rendered it difficult for the men to carry the baricoes backwards and forwards, and it was necessary for the safety of the boat to have her lying at a little distance. The 'Wilberforce' was anchored very close to the rocks in five fathoms, the trips were therefore made quickly, notwithstanding the torrents of rain which fell. This however, did not suspend the exertions of the Krumen, who work cheerfully in either sun or rain. As the neighbouring beach at Rollas is covered with broken shells in great variety, we tried whether anything could be brought up from the bottom by means of the trawl; but after seeking in every direction, we only succeeded in bringing up one shell, —a murex, and some pieces of coral, which the iron dredge broke off the bottom, dragging with them also bits of tufa, the habitations of small mollusca.

October 26th.—Cloudy morning, weighed at daylight, and stood back to Rollas, where, as it is pro-

bable the 'Albert' will touch here, a letter was left for Captain Trotter, advising him of our proceedings, and pointing out where wood and water were to be obtained. To ensure its delivery, and as a return for his civility, we gave the head man of the little fishing establishment a trifling present. The settlement only contained four persons, who have about equal pretensions to the title of lawful chief, but they cordially united in thanking us for this unexpected piece of generosity.

Took our departure from the little isle of Rollas, where we had spent a week very pleasantly and profitably. Although there were some relapses, and even new cases, there was a decided improvement in the general state of our sick. The superiority of the climate south of the Equator, was very apparent as we advanced; some have even said that the sick feel the benefit immediately on crossing the Line. This appears paradoxical, but from whatever cause, the improvement was palpable with us. The wind being strong against us, we made but slow progress.

October 27*th.*—Saw the land of Annobone at daylight, but did not reach the anchorage till the afternoon, as in addition to the obstacle of a head wind, the wood we had procured at Rollas was so wet, that it was with difficulty the steam could be kept up.

On nearing the island we observed the town in a state of great commotion; a few canoes cautiously pushed off from the beach, and one man, who called himself the

Governor's mate, ventured on board, to ascertain if we were English or Spaniards. He was very anxious to possess himself of the Captain's name, and that of the vessel—as they speak a little English—and caught the sounds with great facility, but converted 'Wilberforce' into William-first, having been familiar with the name of His late Majesty; and these simple islanders pride themselves in owning no allegiance, but a voluntary one to the British Sovereign.

The *Governor's Mate* having satisfied himself, waved his hat towards the shore, to signify that all was right, when in a few minutes crowds of men, women, and children, were seen rushing to the beach, numerous canoes were pushed off from three points, and in a very few more we were surrounded by about sixty, containing from one to four men each, laden with goats, pigs, fowls, bananas, plantains, cassada, sweet potatoes, pines, tamarinds, but very few yams. The Governor himself came off, clad—as were most of the natives, fortunate enough to possess them—in portions of European dress. He was distinguished from the commonalty by a flowing scarlet robe.

We were absolutely stunned by vociferations from nearly two hundred human throats, in addition to the bleating, squeaking, and cackling, of the more numerous specimens of inferior grades in the scale of creation. This ultra-Babel *strepito* seemed to bid defiance to any moderately civilized ear in attempting to distinguish the one from the other.

The only thing that could be surmised was, that the *humans* were calling our attention to the admirable qualities of pork and mutton in their quadruped companions, while the latter were disclaiming any ambition for such flattering distinction. A more disinterested motive, however, actuated our congeners, and when something like silence was obtained by Governor Tom Joe,—who constituted himself the "mouth" of his 200 countryman,—and seemed desirous of concentrating the combined power of their lungs in his own throat;—we found that solicitude for our safety had excited this clamour; for Governor Tom Joe, advancing close to the Captain's ear, screamed out at the top of his voice, "Cappen, Cappen, no put anchor, plenty lock (rocks), break ship, break ship." He expressed the utmost astonishment and horror at our having anchored in so little as four fathoms, not being aware of our draft of water.

The Governor was not slow in hinting that a dash or present, as a substitute for port dues, would be acceptable, and even necessary; he showed evidently by his demands, that he has been spoiled by former visitors. An officer's old coat was given him, and more promised if he would assist in getting us wood, of which he said there was "plenty store," although the arid appearance of the neighbourhood of the town did not hold out such hopes. The mountain, it is true, was clothed with wood, but the labour of getting it would be too much for our people, and the natives

could hardly be induced to make so great an exertion.

October 28th.—We landed in the morning to pitch the tent for magnetic observations. As there are two principal streams of lava terminating on the beach, an intermediate spot was chosen, where the sand appeared to be in the greatest mass. Search was also made for the wood that the Governor said was plentiful; it was soon found that his "plenty store" consisted in the "ribs and trucks" of a small Spanish vessel that had been wrecked here, and from what we could understand, must have been a slaver, which made the good people so solicitous to prevent our too near approach. We might have exclaimed of Neptune, as the owls did of the caliph and the ruined villages, as it seems we shall be able to draw an ample supply from her timbers, though all of fir and somewhat sodden by being below high-water mark. The wreck occurred during the *reign* of the late Governor Job, who was present to lay claim to remuneration as lord of the manor. But it was evident that the Governor *de facto* would have the "lion's share."

The native venders had an excellent mode of regulating precedence among themselves. The first comer begged for the end of a long and strong rope from the ship: this he passed through a hole in the bow of his canoe, and then handed it to the next, and so on, to any number, limited only by the length and strength of the rope. They were thus obliged to keep

their places without quarrelling, except with the unfortunates who had not arrived in time to get a berth, and who were hovering about, trying to thrust the bow of their canoes in any opening, to participate in the market. As usual, however, in all well-regulated communities, those who were *in*, contrived to keep all others, *out*.

The clamour and hubbub of this multitude was quite distracting; shouting out in all directions, "Anno Bon man—he good man—he no rogue man—dash (give) him coat, he sell you cocoa-nut." "All'n, All'n, see here fish! look! goat, pig," &c., not thinking the title of captain a necessary adjunct. They grew more vehemently noisy as the prospect of making a good harvest of *rags* became more gloomy; our men not being possessed of many disposable old clothes; and it was also contrary to the discipline of a vessel of war to sell them. An easy method was adopted, which soon relieved us from the intolerable nuisance of a market alongside, and enabled us to procure a good supply at a reasonable price. One of the petty officers was sent on shore with a quantity of goods which the purser had in charge for such occasions of barter, and by this means the ship's company were victualled with fresh provisions, vegetables, and fruit, at a cost of little more than 1*l.* per diem, and a great deal was procured for sea-stock.

Attempts were made to draw the seine, but without success, though the beach is good and fish abundant.

This was, however, the less important, as the natives brought off considerable quantities; and, with a few odds and ends of finery, sufficient was obtained each day for the convalescents, of flying-fish, rock-cod, and the delicious king-fish. An enormous fish, shaped like a ray, was seen near the ship, but it was gone before the harpoon could be used.

October 30*th.*—Fine cool morning. We took advantage of it after breakfast to go along the eastern coast in a boat in search of a watering-place. Two beautiful valleys were passed which must have their little streams, though concealed by a bed of large shingles thrown up by the sea; but the surf was too great to allow us to land and examine them. This side of the island is singularly picturesque. The rocks in bold forms, and finely tinted with lichens, &c., were seen intersected by many basaltic dykes in various directions. A large cavern under an extraordinary peak is the favourite resort of myriads of beautiful sea-birds, with dark plumage and a snowy crown. They build their nests against the rock.

It was fortunate we had been able to reach so good a place, where we might loiter for the recovery of health. It was indeed absolutely necessary for all,—and especially the engineers,—to regain their strength before we started on a long voyage to Ascension. It was hoped that all our serious cases had terminated favourably, but one poor young man, William Allford, who had many relapses, after lingering

several days, died this morning; the others, however, required but rest, and a little prudence in the use of their returning strength and appetite. Although we made considerable advance in getting the ship in order, we were obliged to use much caution, as several men, even with gentle work and slight exertion, had become ill again, though it was principally ague, to which all who had the remittent fever were subject.

Sunday, October 31*st.*—While we were at divine service an American barque stood in towards the roads, but took no further notice of us than to show her colours. A few of the convalescent were allowed to go on shore for a little exercise; but some of them proved unworthy of the indulgence by staying all night, at the imminent risk of relapse, as they got drunk upon palm wine; which, though a very wholesome beverage when fresh, is pernicious when it has begun to ferment. With all the care that could be taken, it was impossible to prevent the natives from bringing it under the bows at night for sale.

We witnessed part of a funeral ceremony for a woman who had died the evening before; though being engaged with magnetic observations we lost the beginning. All the people were found assembled in a semicircle at the front of a house, singing, or rather screeching, most hideously. A man in the middle poised a cross at least twenty feet high, which was rather a difficult performance, for, being as thin as a lath, it

required the greatest dexterity to prevent it from bending, which would have inevitably caused it to fall. He was surrounded by a circle of old women, selected, one would imagine, for their extreme ugliness, with long cloths over their heads, fastened under the chin, and hanging down their backs. Over these they wore large wreaths of green leaves, and they waved branches in their hands as they shuffled about, to the sound of drums and their own discordant voices. Nevertheless, they looked very picturesque, and if it had not been for the cross,—which was apparently the object of their adoration,—the ceremony might have been taken for the remains of some Pagan rites established by Hanno the Carthaginian, *if* he ever touched here, whereof his Periplus leaves no record: it bore, however, evident marks of being a mixture of Fetichism with Christianity. When the singers had come to the end of their dismal strophes the cross-bearer let fall the symbol of our faith into the hands of several men standing ready to receive it. The wreaths and garlands were all collected, and deposited in the church. The drummers, five in number, then led the procession to the defunct's house, which every person made it a duty to visit. We complied with the custom by accompanying the Governor, Tom Joe. The house was in very neat order, but not much lumbered with furniture, either useful or useless. A woman stood inside to receive the visitors. This was the only religious ceremony we witnessed, though it could be seen from the vessel that

they had vespers regularly, at which they carried torches. The Padre begged very hard for candles for the service of the altar. The church is about one hundred feet long. In a sort of Lady Chapel, or sacristy, at the end, behind the high altar, the priest keeps his books and vestments, which are neither voluminous nor costly. In addition to the high altar, on which were some decayed wooden candlesticks, formerly gilded, and a rude figure of the Virgin, there is a small altar on each side. The edifice is built of wood and shingle, with the natural earth for a pavement, and differs but little, except in size, from the dwelling-houses. A building of more pretension formerly stood in its vicinity, which was built by white men for the residence of the priests. The only vestiges now remaining are two squared stone door-posts, which are still erect, and would lead to the supposition that they formed the adit to a respectable dwelling, of which, indeed, the foundations may be traced. Our informant, the present *primate*, took a mournful pleasure in describing the former splendour and extent of the high priest's cook-house, hen-house, and piggery. The period of this prosperity was, however, so remote that an old man told us it was before his father's time. Tradition said that a white priest, with a long white beard, had stayed with the islanders about four moons. He then went to Lisbon, and after a long interval another came, who, like his predecessor, remained but four moons. Since then the poor people have been constantly look-

ing in vain for spiritual guides. They are left to a native *Padre*, who cannot be supposed to be well acquainted with the truths of Christianity, even as left by the short tuition of their first pastors; it is not surprising therefore, that these simple people have not preserved the religion, thus imperfectly taught them, free from the usages of their pagan ancestors.

The church is dedicated to the Virgin, and there are many chapels in different parts of the island consecrated to saints. Through the main street is a line of crosses. The fairest field is here open to the Protestant missionary, who would find, instead of the hatred and contempt which is widely spread by Mahomedans in Africa, a predisposition at least, and a veneration for the principal dogmas of his own belief. A judicious teacher would have no difficulty in leading the half Christianized natives to the more simple worship of the Protestant faith; while he might prove his desire of befriending them by attending to their temporal wants, and introducing improvements on customs, to which they are wedded by long use, instead of endeavouring to bring about sudden revolutions in their method of seeing and doing things. For instance—a very great blessing might be conferred on the inhabitants of the town, by shewing them how, with a very little trouble, they might procure abundance of water all the year round, instead of having to send for it to the lake, which is situated about 800 feet above them, and to which the road is so

steep, that this most necessary article in domestic economy is only brought down in small quantities by children, who take as many cocoa-nuts full of it as they can carry in a basket on the head.

The government appears to be an oligarchy, vested —as far as we could learn, from the very imperfect English which is spoken—in five persons, who, by turns, "take a spell," as they call it, in the berth of Governor. The tenure of office is not for life,—nor for any term of years,—nor at the will or pleasure of any despot, whether regal or the sovereign people,—it is not in fact, regulated on any known cycle or principle, usually adopted in other communities. But it is perhaps the most fluctuating and uncertain method that could be devised, though founded on the recurrence of an event which all most anxiously looked for, —namely, the arrival of ships. To record these would be a compendium of their history, chronology, physical and moral phenomena,—the end and object of all their prayers and religious aspirations.

They think that the greatest good that God can confer on them, is to send ships, from which alone they can hope for all their supplies, having nothing within themselves except the natural productions of the island—the live stock,—which, like themselves, increase and multiply by the general law of nature, without any care being taken to improve such resources. This total dependence on the liberality of ships they do not fail to put before you in the strongest terms in

the catalogue of their wants. Thus the chief magistrate holds office during the period of the arrival of ten ships. He is attended by his mate, his boatswain, and his steward, who all participate in the advantages accruing from such events, and they hold their situations on the same terms as their patron. But whether they have any other privilege or jurisdiction, it was impossible to learn with certainty. The ex-Governor is called Job, that is, "finished," according to their explanation. The Governor Job of our epoch lost his office in consequence of the wreck of a ship. But whether that was his tenth arrival, or whether it was looked upon as an untoward event, or more likely as being equivalent to several arrivals, we could not learn. It is however very difficult to obtain any information, as they speak English perhaps more imperfectly than any who have equal intercourse; and though they appear to use the Portuguese language with more fluency, it is most likely a patois mixed up of Portuguese and the language or languages of their ancestors, as they were doubtless slaves of various nations placed here by the Portuguese. We could not learn that more than one dialect was spoken in the island; all the answers obtained referred to the same object—namely, their poverty, which was an explanation for everything, and a reason for not satisfying our curiosity on any other subject. They always reverted to the palpable truism, "Annobon poor fellow, no have shirt, no have trouwsa."

The town is straggling, formed in irregular streets or lanes of detached huts, without gardens or enclosures of any kind. The principal one, however, is tolerably straight, and leads through the town to the church, having crosses planted at intervals. Judging from the number of men who came alongside in the canoes, and who comprised probably two-thirds of the males, it may contain about three thousand inhabitants. There are also villages at Santa Cruz, in the valleys of St. John and St. Peter, and at the other parts of the island; these are but few, small, and perhaps only occasional residences, as we understood that nearly all the inhabitants of the island have houses at the *metropolis*, to which they resort on the arrival of a ship, so that we saw the majority of the population of the island assembled to reap the benefit of our arrival. Our friend, Governor "Tom Joe," claims superiority over all. They admitted that slave-vessels had often touched there for supply of fresh provisions, and that their visits were very lucrative; but latterly, some of their countrymen had been forcibly carried off while trading alongside, and they now feared to have any communication with wretches, who respect no law human or divine, where their vile interests are concerned. As a means of protecting themselves against any future attempt, the natives were anxious to purchase fire-arms, as well as powder and shot. The few who possess muskets are very fond of shooting

guinea-fowl, of which they procure great numbers; taking care to watch for them late in the evening at early dawn, when they are congregated in flocks on the trees, and when one shot will perhaps secure three or more birds.

To an English sportsman, guinea-fowl shooting is full of amusement; the only drawback is the heat of the climate; but even at Annobon we enjoyed it very much. As soon as the sun has fairly risen above the horizon, the birds, which had previously been perching in the woods, come out into the long grass to enjoy the subdued heat, and obtain insects. They are generally in coveys of from six to twelve, and until the afternoon, lie very close, so that it is often possible to get within a tolerable distance of them. On first rising, they get up with a whirr, louder that that of blackcock, so startling as almost to unnerve the sportsman in taking aim; but if successful, how pleased is he to see one, perhaps two or three of these noble birds fall, the gray and spotted feathers floating lightly in the air. The plumage is richer, and the birds themselves larger, than the domesticated guinea-fowl; and certainly the flavour of those we shot at Annobon far exceeded all English game. Several of our invalids who were so weak, that they could scarce touch food, declared that the very odour of the roast guinea-fowl acted as a tonic, and restored the appetite.

November 4th.—We made up a party and landed

at daylight for the purpose of having a little excursion to the lake on the summit of the island. The path was at first tolerably good. Several chapels were passed, in one of which we took shelter from a shower finding it most conveniently open; indeed it seemed to be more used as a half-way house than as a place of worship. A large party of natives who were going to fetch palm-wine from the mountain, or water from the lake, also took advantage of it, but more probably from a desire to see us, and obtain some little gift than from fear of the rain.

Towards the upper part of the hill, we passed several enclosures of cassada, cotton, sugar-cane, &c., neatly fenced off. After rather more than an hour's walk, we arrived at the beautiful little circular lake, situated about 737 feet above the level of the sea, according to Commander Allen's measurement with the mountain barometer, which was, however, but an approximation. This has evidently been the crater of an extinct volcano. It is surrounded on all sides by a high ridge, except where it declines towards the north, marking the point of exit of the streams of lava which flowed towards the sea during the activity of the ancient volcano, and where now the water which has occupied its place overflows in the rainy season. The lake was now at its lowest, so that no water passed over, and the inhabitants of the town, who have no other supply, were obliged to send up for it every morning. We saw a picturesque group of boys

and girls, filling their cocoa-nuts, enjoying the luxury of a long draught, and washing themselves at the same time. We preferred going a few yards further off to slake our thirst in the cool water. A bold peak of trachyte, "Pico massa fina," rises on the opposite side to 600 feet above the lake, and 1337 above the sea, as we afterwards ascertained by going up the ridge till the peak was brought *on* with the horizontal line, as we did not attempt its steep and dangerous ascent. It has three crosses erected on the summit.

The walk round the lake is highly romantic and picturesque. A steep path brought us to the ridge on the south-east side, which commands an almost boundless horizon from north-west to south-east, a beautiful view over the lake on one hand, and on the other we looked down on the vale of St. John and its little bay, where the 'Wilberforce' had just arrived to complete her water. While we looked down on her we could not see the men on the decks, and nothing that could form a standard by which any person not acquainted with her dimensions could form an estimate of them, so much was our little ship reduced by distance and the density of the medium through which she was seen slowly, almost imperceptibly, slipping over the blue surface of the element on which she floated to her anchorage.

The boundary of sky and water was hardly distinguishable; many clouds far below us appeared to be floating on the water. On the other side rose

the highest mountainous ridges of the island, more than a thousand feet above us, covered with beautiful wood. We tried to reach the loftiest part of the ridge surrounding the lake, to the great dismay of Governor "Tom Joe," who declared that nobody could pass that way; it was very narrow, and steep on both sides. We saw some wild pigeons in the woods, but they would not come near enough to be shot.

After a good breakfast under the shade of a huge fantastic rock we descended to the vale of St. John, over ground which is capable of cultivation, being naturally clear for a considerable extent, and with apparently good soil. The natives have a few plantations of cassada lower down. We saw farm-houses scattered about, and a neat little white-washed chapel.

At our last resting place, in the lower part of the valley, we enjoyed a deliciously cool rill, under the shade of palm-trees; the arching and intersecting ribs of which formed a more exact representation of the gothic arch than any of the types that have been imagined by architects to be the original of that graceful style. Nothing could be more perfect than what we then had before us. Vistas in all directions might be compared to the long aisle or nave of a cathedral; and though the willow or other trees in the cold climates, where this style of architecture predominates, may really have given the first idea of it, the regular course of the stout rib in the immense

leaves of the palm-tree forms by various intersections arches of the most perfect symmetry.

There is a little stream in the bottom of the valley which perhaps would give sufficient power for saw-mills. We however could not make it available for supplying us with water, as the surf was too great for the boats to approach near enough.

We returned to the 'Wilberforce' in the afternoon, very much delighted with our little excursion over the mountain; and although we had the full power of the sun in descending the valley, the heat was not oppressive.

November 5th.—The vessel was moved to the next bay, called St. Peter's, where the boats were able to

Drawn by [illegible] N

Engraved by J W Cook

Funeral Ceremony

at Annaboe

lie close to the beach, and by leading a hose from the little rivulet, the water was easily pumped into the barricoes without landing them.

This bay is subject to frequent and variable puffs of wind, and as the anchorage is close to the shore, great care should be taken not to "foul the anchor;" being very "steep-to" a vessel would be on the rocks before another could be dropped. The cliffs, bold and beautiful, are intersected by numerous basaltic veins. The valley is richly wooded, and appears to be much more diversified than even that of St. John's, which we so much admired. The mountains on the south side rise perpendicularly from the sea in a pyramidal form.

Having completed our water, we sailed in the afternoon for the Island of Ascension, after eight days passed most agreeably at this interesting little island, which will always be a bright spot in our recollection; as, although we had lost one man here, —the last,—who was originally of a very weakly constitution,—and had suffered several relapses,—yet all the others rapidly recovered their health and spirits. The weather, with the exception of a little rain, was uninterruptedly fine, and the temperature not only agreeable, but every one seemed to feel a consciousness that exposure to the sun would not be so injurious as we had hitherto found it to be. We coasted along this bright isle, opening a succession of little valleys, with fine outlines of steep mountains,

richly clothed with wood. One especially, presenting a perpendicular face to the sea, was of very singular and beautiful form; being pyramidal, with tapering pinnacles of rock rising erect from the slopes on either side, like those of Milan Cathedral, while every ledge and crevice gave nourishment to a rich luxuriance of parasitical and other foliage, and the precipitous surfaces were tinged with every variety of colour. Little villages appeared nestled in fertile spots, but these were few, and sometimes only guessed at by the gracefully curling smoke; the greater part of the population of the island being then at the capital.

Four rocky islets, south of the island, are the resort of numerous sea-birds. After passing these, we gave our last farewell to Annobone*. The breeze was fresh from south-west, with some rain. We steered head to wind, in order to get sufficient southing to enable us, when we should fall in with the trade-winds, to fetch the Island of Ascension. This is of the utmost importance at all times, but especially to a vessel constructed like ours, which could only make a passage under sail, with a very favourable wind; since, from the want of a keel fore and aft, she made lee-way on every point. The fuel could not be expected,—

* This "bright isle" was discovered in 1743 by the Portuguese, and named from the new year. It is the smallest and outermost of those elevated by the line of volcanic action in a direction south-westerly from the Camaroon Mountain, and rises abruptly from a deep sea to about three thousand feet.

without strict economy,—to last such a distance, more than 1200 miles, and the danger of missing the island, which has occurred to vessels of better sailing qualities, was therefore much increased with us. In such case the only thing would be to run for Pernambuco, on the coast of South America.

The wood we had obtained from the wreck was hardly worth the room it took upon deck, as it lasted in fact, but one day, and we had to commence on our coals, of which we had eighty-four tons,—about enough for ten days.

The weather was beautiful on this agreeable little voyage, with refreshing breezes; and the nights were remarkably clear, so that the stars rose and set with great distinctness, being visible till almost touching the apparent horizon.

Those who had not been in southern latitudes before, were gratified by the sight of the Magellan clouds.

On the 7th November, we passed Dr. Brewster's "Warm Meridian," but the temperature was unexpectedly cool. The thermometer was seldom higher than 75°, and sometimes during the night it felt even cold; at least to us who had been long subject to the heat of Africa, a temperature of 69°, was rather lower than agreeable.

November 14*th.*—About twenty meteors only were seen during the past night, though this was about the time when they are expected to be most numerous;

they were observed generally at an elevation of about 70° towards the west, and shooting in that direction.

A series of magnetic observations were carried on daily at the same place,—the skylight of the cabin; and though from the vessel being of iron, they will be subject to very great errors; still it was considered, that if an approximation to the truth can be obtained by eliminating these, the experiments will be interesting, none having been previously made in this region.

We were constantly deceived by supposed indications of the trade-wind, which did not come to our aid except partially, till we were very near the termination of the voyage. The current also did but little for us.

As we proceeded, the reverberating noise of our paddle-wheels disturbed from their element large shoals of the flying fish, or *Hirondelle de Mer* of the French,—one of the most interesting and beautiful of the inhabitants of the deep, met with in the warm latitudes. The symmetry of its body—the long and widely-expansive pectoral fins—the bright polished-looking operculum, and fine blue and silver tints, make its examination a pleasing pastime to the naturalist, when, as often happens, it is allured by the light to fly on board. Notwithstanding their longer and more frequent contact with air than any other fish, they survive the shortest period when kept out of water. About fifteen yards is a usual distance at each emersion from the sea, but they sometimes accomplish

as many as forty yards, if the crest of some intermediate wave offers a new starting place. The smaller ones generally move in shoals, while the large fish and those of greatest tenacity out of the briny element, are often solitary. The flavour of these latter is good.

Wednesday, November 17th.—The distant view of Ascension gives rise to pleasurable emotions, which unfortunately are not confirmed by a nearer approach. Perhaps the weary voyager has been looking during weeks or months for "some green spot to rest upon," and hails anything in the shape of *terrâ firmâ*, but the nearer he comes to the land of promise, the less he finds to draw forth his admiration or reward his hopes. All the lower part is cinder,—brown scoriaceous cinder,—with scarce a blade of grass, or other sign of struggling vegetation: True, afar off, one little spot is adorned with verdure, and called *par excellence* "the green mountain;" but nowhere else can the eye fix on a pleasing, promising, feature; being without a trace of that luxuriance of nature which is inseparably connected in the mind with intertropical scenery. It presents one wide arid waste, which would seem to threaten to dry up all human feeling. It is not surprising, therefore, that some of our fair countrywomen should have shed tears on landing, and seeing the inhospitable nature of the place in which they were to pass some years of their life. It *is* however surprising, but no less true, that they shed more tears at leaving the island, where they had passed

many happy, instead of weary days, owing to the truly paternal government of the late excellent and much lamented Captain Bate, R.M., aided by their own amiable and cheerful dispositions; so true it is that the milk of human kindness can deck even a desert with a smiling aspect. Many will look back with pleasurable and grateful feelings to that period,—long before the time of our present visit,—with which no such agreeable recollections can be associated.

Wednesday, November 17th.—We anchored in the roads of Ascension, and lost no time in commencing our refitting, in order to be ready by the first day of January to return to the coast, according to the orders of Captain Trotter.

Fortunately all the officers and men had now recovered their health; thanks to the pure breeze of the southern ocean, and especially under God's mercy, to the beautiful Isle of Annobone, truly a bright spot "to memory dear."

Our first care was to clean the ship thoroughly, and particularly the holds. The powder in the magazine was found to be so damp, that it was necessary to land it to be dried at the block-house. A part of the ventilating apparatus called the purificator,—a large iron tank,—having proved to be totally inefficient for the purpose intended by the talented contriver, and being also exceedingly cumbersome,—occupying a large and inconvenient portion of the deck,—it was landed to answer the purpose of a water-tank, and in that

capacity will no doubt be found very useful on the island where water can only be had by such economy. As no boat would hold this large machine, the apertures were stopped, and it was floated on shore, and seen on its passage from the top of the mountain, it looked like a floating omnibus.

In condemning so integral a portion of the costly ventilating apparatus, it may appear paradoxical to say that the theory was good, but that we found it in the 'Wilberforce' to be of no perceivable benefit in supplying improved air to the people. To carry out the principle to its full extent, all apertures except those of the 'purificator'—about eighteen inches in diameter—ought to have been closed, so as to suffer no air to approach the many lungs which were gasping for it, except what had passed through the medicating substances. There can be no doubt that if a sufficient quantity could have been transmitted by these means it might have been deprived of much of its noxious nature; but the wind-sails which were intended to bring the air from the elevation of the mast-heads were never even inflated by the force of the fanners. This method, called the *plenum impulse*, was found in the 'Wilberforce' to have merely the effect of compressing the stagnant and deteriorated air into all the remote extremities and corners of the ship; but the reverse process,—the *vacuum* which was always used in the Niger after the failure of the other was ascertained, —performed at least the good office of extracting it;

by which means a slight circulation was kept up of such *fresh* air as could be procured.

In such a climate active ventilation is of the highest importance; in order therefore to improve it as much as possible, and to remedy the peculiarity of construction in our vessels where the free passage of air was cut off by the water-tight compartments, Captain W. Allen decided on making openings through these, whereby a constant current was obtained, from the lower deck—occupied by the ship's company—through the midshipmen's berth to the engine-room, to the manifest advantage and relief of all, especially the stokers; great care was however taken that these apertures should be at such an elevation as not to interfere with the advantages proposed in having those partitions, namely, to secure the ship against the dangers of striking on a rock. We had also as an auxiliary to the ventilator an apparatus for the purpose of heating and drying the air to be transmitted. This was found to be much more easily and simply effected, by taking off a part of the covers of the fanners, which then diffused from the engine-room very dry air, and of high temperature. Some other alterations and improvements gave us a clear deck fore and aft.

At Annobone it had been intimated that the men, having suffered so much from the fever of the Niger, would generally apply, on our arrival at Ascension, to be invalided; as, being then in some degree still under the influence of it, they dreaded a return to the river.

No notice was taken of this at the time; but when an opportunity offered of getting volunteers from merchant-ships on the passage home, a few obnoxious characters were taken at their word, and exchanged, much to their discomfiture, as they had then recovered, and wished to stay. The remaining men were confirmed in their attachment to the ship, by getting rid of the black sheep.

On the 7th December, the day after the departure of H. M. brig 'Wanderer,' Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman, a melancholy event occurred that cast a gloom over the little society in the island, very much deranged our operations, and put us to much inconvenience, which would have been obviated had it taken place during the stay of Captain Denman, who was senior officer on this part of the station. As the commandant of the island, Captain Bennett, R.M. was reading to his wife in the evening, he suddenly, without uttering a sound, fell from his chair, dead before he reached the floor! He was much regretted.

So many repairs and alterations were required to be done that it was impossible to get the 'Wilberforce' ready by the 1st of January, 1842, according to Captain Trotter's direction. We should have been prepared to sail for the coast of Africa by the 7th of that month; but it was fortunate we were detained, for on the 5th, H.M. Brig 'Buzzard' arrived with the melancholy intelligence that the 'Albert' had returned to Fernando Po, with all her crew dangerously ill with

fever. They had been immediately landed at the hospital, where Commander Bird Allen, with several officers and men had fallen a sacrifice to their zeal in braving to the utmost the climate of the fatal river. In fact, the vessel and her crew were only saved from great risk of destruction by the timely meeting of Mr. Beecroft, in the 'Ethiope,' who brought them safely to Fernando Po. She had been conducted as far as the point where her deliverer was met, by the almost superhuman exertion of Doctors McWilliam and Stanger; but it was not possible that their unaided strength could have lasted much longer. Captain Trotter was reported to be in such danger, that the medical men had thought it necessary he should immediately return to England, as the only means of saving his life, and that officer deeming it also of importance that one of the commissioners should lay before Her Majesty's Government a statement of the condition of the vessels and survivors of the Expedition, had taken his passage in a small schooner which was fortunately about to sail for England.

In addition to these disasters, it was rumoured that Mr. Carr, the superintendent of the model farm, had been murdered by the natives at the mouth of the Niger, while he was in the act of proceeding up the river, for the purpose of taking charge of his establishment, having been obliged by severe illness to come away in the 'Albert,' when she descended the river. Lastly, it was said that the settlers, whom we had

left at the confluence of the Chadda and the Niger, on the land purchased for them from the Attàh of Iddah, had been attacked by the natives. Nevertheless, as the officer, whom Captain Trotter had put in the temporary command of the 'Albert' during his absence, had not made any official communication to Captain Allen on the subject, he could not decide on any step to be taken until his arrival, which was most anxiously looked for.

CHAPTER III.

'Soudan' dispatched from Fernando Po to the 'Albert's' assistance—Meet off the entrance to Nun River—Melancholy condition of the 'Albert's' crew—Doctor McWilliam's journal of proceeding above the Confluence—Kellebeh—Filatahs—Omeh, chief of Kakandah—Increasing sickness of the 'Albert's' crew—Gori market—Tribute exacted by the Filatahs—Native garrulity—A slave canoe captured—Price of slaves—History of a slave—Buddu—Kinami—Domestic slaves—Natives of Bushi—Ideas of a future state—Rogang, the Nufi chief—Egga—Form of the dwellings—Native fashion of painting the eyes—Religion of the Nufis—Dress—Price of a wife—Death of King Musa—Origin of the subjugation of the Nufi people—Zumozariki, an important chief—Vaccination—Captain Trotter attacked with the fever—Obliged to relinquish the further prosecution of the Expedition up the river.

On the 28th January our suspense was relieved,—the melancholy intelligence brought by the 'Buzzard' was confirmed by the arrival of the 'Albert,' bringing dispatches from Captain Trotter. By these Captain W. Allen was informed that he was to consider himself as in command of the Expedition and Acting Chief Commissioner until the return of that officer, who suggested that the beginning of July would be the earliest time for the vessels to re-enter the Niger; but, from information he had received, he thought that the

end of that month would be the safest to ensure the passage up the river without detention, and therefore recommended that we should wait for instructions from the Government till the 1st of June, at Ascension.

Before however taking these points into consideration, we will bring the narration of the 'Albert's' proceedings up to her arrival at Ascension.

It will be remembered* that in consequence of the illness of Lieutenant Fishbourne, Lieutenant Strange was put in charge of the 'Soudan,' by Commander W. Allen, with orders to proceed to the Niger, and assist the 'Albert,' if necessary.

On the 9th, the 'Soudan,' having completed her stores and fuel, and with a small crew of white officers and men, sailed for the river Nun. In the passage thither, she touched at George's Bay, on the north-western side of the island.

Having but one person on board who understood the engine—a stoker from the 'Pluto'—and his knowledge being superficial, the machinery often came to a sudden stand-still, and—against a head sea and wind—the vessel made but slow progress. On the 13th there was a long delay in consequence of some derangement of the engine; however, after the loss of some hours, it was put in order, and on the morning of the 16th, the 'Soudan' was just going over the bar

* Page 25.

into the Nun, when the 'Ethiope' and 'Albert' were perceived coming out.

It was a lovely morning, and the scenery about the river looked very beautiful, affording a sad contrast to the dingy and deserted look of the 'Albert.'

Many were of course the painful surmises as to the fate of those on board. On approaching, however, the melancholy truth was soon told. The fever had been doing its direst work; several were dead, many dying, and, of all the officers, but two, Drs. McWilliam and Stanger, were able to move about. The former presented himself and waved his hand, and one emaciated figure was seen to be raised up for a second. This was Captain Trotter, who in his anxiety to look at the 'Soudan' again, had been lifted out of his cot.

A spectacle more full of painful contemplation, could scarcely have been witnessed. Slowly and portentously, like a plague-ship filled with its dead and dying, onwards she moved in charge of her generous pilot, Mr. Beecroft. Who would have thought that little more than two months previously she had entered that same river with an enterprising crew, full of life, and buoyant with bright hopes of accomplishing the objects on which all had so ardently entered? If any of the *few* who afterwards raised the voice of censure, or called in question the enduring courage of those employed on the Expedition, had been *there*, it cannot be believed but that such a picture would have repressed their unfeeling expressions; and while it

would have shewn them how easy it is to write "hard things" at a comfortable English fireside, it is impossible, without being absolutely engaged in the trying circumstances themselves, to estimate the character or exertions of those they criticise. The interesting journal of Dr. McWilliam, from which he has kindly given us the following abstract, will further corroborate these remarks.

Notes of Proceedings on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel 'Albert,' after departure of the 'Wilberforce,' by Dr. McWilliam.

"*September* 21*st.*—Early this morning the 'Wilberforce' steamed down the river, while we at the same time proceeded on the voyage up the Niger. Fishbourne, my messmate for six years, in various ships, having been appointed to the temporary command of the 'Soudan:' Mr. Müller, the chaplain, having for the time, exchanged duties with Mr. Schön: and Mr. Bowden, purser, and Mr. Harvey, master, having gone on board the 'Wilberforce' sick; there remain, of those who left England, in the gun-room, only Dr. Stanger and myself. Every part of the ship, indeed, shows a sad reduction of both officers and men; but we are all full of hope, and resolved, if possible, to reach Rabbah. Above the confluence, the land becomes more rounded and undulating, and the river more winding in its course. Several small villages

were seen in the forenoon. At two, P.M., we were at a village on the right bank, called "Kelebeh." The huts were circular, built of mud, and many of them completely surrounded, and damaged by the river overflowing its banks. Here two natives, one called "Ganna," and the other "Mamuda," came on board, and offered to show us where firewood was to be got, and to pilot the vessel to the higher part of the Kakandah country. Ganna stated, that he was a native of Buddu, the chief Kakandah town. He informed us, that Filatah horsemen, to the number of nine hundred, about three months since, encamped five miles inland from "Kelebeh." From their encampment, the Filatahs were constantly making predatory excursions to the neighbouring villages, from which they generally returned with captives, whom they enslaved. Some time back, the Filatahs attacked "Kelebeh" by night, burnt and destroyed many of the huts, and made numbers of the inhabitants prisoners. The inhabitants of a village inland, near which some Filatahs are at present settled, had begged to be received into Kelebeh; but the chief was obliged to refuse them protection, for fear of giving offence to his terrible enemies.

The chief of "Muye," another Kakandah town, has, of late, interceded for the poor people of the beleaguered village, and has sent a headman to Kelebeh, to beg for their reception into that village, as a personal favour.

It was at "Kelebeh" that we first lost sight of an aquatic plant, which from above twenty miles within the Nun, had been very abundant, particularly at Abòh, where the surface of the river was literally covered with it*.

At 5·30 P.M., we were at "Muyè." Here the natives speedily launched a canoe, with the intention of bringing off wood to us; but as we, ourselves, were anxious to cut a considerable quantity higher up the river, and it beginning to get dark, we continued onwards, and anchored in the evening off Lelem, or Lelemu, a village on the right bank.

It grieved me to see my excellent messmate and townsman, Lieutenant Stenhouse, who was slightly unwell before we left the Confluence, complaining of severe headache; Commander Bird Allen, had also suspicious symptoms. A seaman, and one of the engineers, were also added to the sick list.

"Omeh" or "Muyè" is one of the chief Kakandah towns. The town was, in former days, situated about three miles inland, but the natives, in consequence of the Filatah incursions, were obliged, for greater security, to resort to the river side. The huts are built of mud, and the roofs are neatly thatched with grass. The headman is appointed by the chief of the

* Pistia (Stratiotes?) "Nilus secum et interiore Africa affert, Pelusium usque: sed florentem haud in Ægypto viderunt."—*Sprengel, Systema*, vol. iii.

Kakandah country, who is styled King by his people, although subject to the Attàh of Iddah. At the death of a king, the Attàh can appoint any one he pleases, but he generally selects a Kakandah man for the office. Circumcision is performed when the children are three or four months of age. The operators on these occasions are mallams from Egga, who are paid according to the circumstances of the parents of the children. The mallams profess to teach the people; but no one seemed to know what books they used.

During the period of the Jewish ritual, sheep, goats, and fowls are slain in abundance. They declared that they never performed human sacrifices, although they admitted that the Attàh of Iddah occasionally did so.

They said the river would not rise any higher this season; and that in three months it would be quite low.

Small pox and dysentery occasionally prevail in Kakandah; especially during very dry seasons. For the cure of dysentery, they prepare medicine from the root of a plant, the native name of which is Labojī.

The articles sent from this place to the Gori market are, tobacco, camwood, and ivory; for these they get in exchange, cowries, rice, and salt.

The day throughout was beautiful, but extremely hot; a tornado, however, came on in the evening, with very heavy rain, which cooled the atmosphere.

September 22nd.—This morning the transparency of the atmosphere was remarkable; the most minute

ridges of the mountains ("Barker's Mount," the *Dolli*, and the "Eildon Hills," the *Jegila* of the natives,) standing out in the most perfect and delicate relief. The river between Lelemu and Atchiba is nearly a mile in breadth; the distant land is high, and the flats on each side are extensive.

The flats were by the overflowing of the river in many parts cut up into numerous islets. Here and there dark clusters of trees, and sometimes even a single palm, were seen to emerge from the smooth and glassy surface of the water, with a singularly graceful effect. At one, P.M., we weighed, and passed a large village called Domeh, and several others in the course of the afternoon. At four o'clock, Captain Trotter, Dr. Stanger, Mr. Schön, and I, landed at Gori, a small island on the left bank, where a market of some note is held weekly. In the creek there were about sixty canoes of all sizes, containing goods of various kinds. Having landed with some difficulty, we were conducted by narrow winding paths between the huts, to the chief, whom we found sitting on a mat in front of his door. He begged us to seat ourselves, and informed us that Gori was an independent territory*, and that he ruled over four other large towns, called Arrā, Akōkou, Atchinō, and Ogbou. He spoke with

* He here made a mistake; for on the arrival of Aduku, the Attàh's son, next day, he found it necessary to acknowledge submission to the Attàh of Iddah (Eggarah.)

great horror of the dreaded Filatahs. In the market-place there were assembled not less than fifteen hundred people. The chief articles exposed for sale were —salt in bags made of stout matting, tobes, country cloth of various patterns, camwood in balls, hoes and shovels, calabashes beautifully carved, wooden spoons and platters, mats, straw hats with immense brims, bows and arrows, heaps of Indian corn, seeds of various kinds, twine and silk, Shea butter, yams, dried buffalo's flesh, dried fish, and kouskous. The chief told us that slaves and ivory were also sold in the market.

A blacksmith was sitting in the market-place making hoes. His bellows, although of rude and primitive construction, seemed to answer the purpose very well. This machine consisted of a large, stout leathern bag, with two wooden cylinders closed at the farther ends, attached to it. The cylinders were perforated on the sides, and fitted with clay tubes which projected into the fire, the points nearly meeting each other. A good blast was kept by the alternate elevation and depression of the upper part of the bag.

The mallam said, that every canoe bringing goods to the market pays a duty of fifty cowries for each of the crew. The same duty is demanded on each bag of salt. Slaves are brought from all the towns in the neighbourhood to the Gori market; five were sold yesterday. The niece of the King of Nufi came on board with the mallam. She was young, good-look-

ing, and intelligent—married to a man who is at present on a slave-purchasing expedition to Fundah, Toto, and some other places on the Tchadda.

Gori pays an annual tribute of 360,000 cowries to the Filatah king; and to the Attàh of Iddah a mere nominal tribute, being only a horse yearly. The same is paid by several other headmen of the villages in the neighbourhood. If the Attàh requires soldiers, he may levy upon the Gori people.

Mr. Fairholme and Mr. Webb, mates, were added to the sick list in the course of the day; and Commander B. Allen's symptoms were unequivocal.

September 23*rd.*—We were awoke before daylight by the din and chattering of the natives, who came alongside, with canoe-loads of wood. It would appear that here, each tries to vie with his fellow in the perpetual motion of the tongue. Persuasion, remonstrance, or threats produce no cessation of the noise. Palaver is the order of the day in all their transactions.

In the forenoon a large canoe came alongside belonging to Agiddi, the Chief of Muyè, and Ajimba his son was in charge of it. It contained three slaves—two females, and one male; besides three horses and a load of other articles, all purchased at the market of Egga. As Muyè is in the territory of the Attàh of Iddah, the slaves, canoe, horses, &c., were condemnable, by virtue of the treaty made with the Attàh and Her Majesty's Commissioners, which prohibited

the Attàh or his subjects from dealing in slaves out of his own dominions. Fortunately Aduku, the Attàh's son, who had been sent the day after the treaty was concluded (6th September) to promulgate its conditions to his father's subjects, was at this time at Gori. Captain Trotter resolved to show that the terms of the treaty were to be strictly enforced, detained the canoe, and got the slaves on deck. Aduku came on board soon afterwards, when Ajimba was subjected to a formal trial, for a violation of the law. Ajimba admitted freely that the law had been broken, but pleaded in his defence that at the time he purchased the slaves, he was not aware of its existence. Captain Trotter commented strongly upon Aduku's negligence, in not sooner having made the law known at Muyè; and assured Ajimba that it would be rigidly acted upon in future; that for the present, taking everything into consideration, he would not destroy the canoe, nor would he seize any property in it; but the slaves he would instantly make free. In token of this, the females were each habited in an English dress, and the man was rigged out in a sailor's frock and trousers. Poor creatures, their looks expressed a mixed feeling of fear, amazement, and gratitude. Kindness from their own species seemed new to them.

Ajimba said that he paid for the oldest and fattest of the two girls 40,000 cowries, and for the other woman and the young man 20,000 cowries each.

Captain Trotter gave the very appropriate names of Hannah Buxton and Elizabeth Fry to the two women, while the man was called Albert Gori,—after His Royal Highness, the consort of our beloved Queen, and Patron of the Society for the Civilization of Africa;—and as commemorative of the place where he threw off the chains of human bondage.

Shortly after dark the sorrows and troubles of the women were for awhile drowned in deep sleep. I saw them lying under the awning closely locked in each other's arms.

In the course of a day or two they became less timid, and an Aku boy (my servant, who had also been with me in H.M.S. 'Scout,') soon became a favourite with them both. They told him they made certain, when they came first on board, that we were about to kill them, for we "looked so strong." A sad illustration of the state of society in this unhappy country, where power cannot be regarded otherwise than as a means of oppression.

It appeared that the older of the two had become an object of jealousy to her husband, and that he in consequence sold her to a slave-dealer who at the time happened to be trading in their country. She said that before she saw the water (Niger) the slave-gang to which she belonged travelled wearily every day for nearly a month. They were some days on the water before they reached Egga; and during the passage parties of her unhappy companions were from

time to time disposed of at villages on the banks of the river. At Egga she was exposed for sale in the market-place, where she became the property of a slave-merchant there; and shortly afterwards passed into the hands of a third master, (Ajimba,) who was conveying her to Muyè, when we fell in with the canoe. The females subsequently were left at Fernando Po, under the care of a respectable matron, and Albert Gori was apprenticed to a carpenter of the same place.

Two P.M. weighed. In the afternoon passed Buddu, a large Kakandah town on the right bank, (marked Kakanda in Captain W. Allen's chart); towards the evening anchored for the night a little way above the village Adama Dalù, on left bank. At this place Aduku left us, promising to follow us next day, as far as Egga.

Some rain fell during the early part of this day. In the afternoon and evening the weather was sultry and oppressive. Two fresh cases of fever in the course of the day.

September 24th.—Got under weigh early in the morning. A great many villages were passed, especially on the right bank; many of these were inundated and deserted, the river extending far beyond its usual limits.

We stopped for a short time to admire the singular beauty of the situation of one of the villages, which was built on an elevated bank close to the river, on the margin of a forest of palms. The natives rushed

out of their huts, and looked at the vessel, at first, with amazement and doubt; but soon took courage, launched several canoes, and came alongside with goats, Guinea-fowls, calabashes, &c.

At eleven A.M. got twice aground near the right bank, but were off almost immediately.

The left bank was nearly destitute of huts, with the exception of a miserable-looking village called Bezzani, where the squalid wretchedness of the inhabitants (Nufis) corresponded with the appearance of the place. Their only habiliment was a small cloth round the middle, showing altogether a degree of poverty not observed among any other people we have fallen in with since leaving the Confluence.

At half-past three grounded near the left bank; laid a stream-anchor and hawser out, on the quarter, and hauled off in about twenty minutes.

Later in the afternoon we were off Mount Elphinstone Fleming, a table mountain with sloping sides, which, as well as the hills and undulating lower grounds near it, were wooded and beautifully green; and dotted here and there with huts, peeping through the clumps of palm-trees. The day was fine, and the atmosphere unusually clear. The character of the scenery had now, in a great measure, changed. We had no longer a dense luxuriant vegetation growing to the water's edge and overhanging the river; the banks, except in the creeks, were clearly defined, and elevated from three to six or eight feet above the river. We had

emerged, as it were, from the forest to a fine open country, with extensive plains and distant hills, over which the eye could range in all directions. Between one of the mountain ranges (Terry Mountains) in the distance, and Mount Elphinstone Fleming, a fine open tract of flat land extends, to which the name of Oldfield Plains has been given.

One of the stokers began to complain in the afternoon, and the other patients were nearly in the same state as yesterday. A heavy tornado was experienced in the evening, with relief to all after the oppressive heat of the day. Anchored in the evening near a village on the right bank called Kinami.

September 25th.—The Krumen were sent ashore to cut wood at Kinami, when they procured five boat-

loads. Kinami consists of seven different clusters of huts, built on a bank about eight feet above the river, and the inhabitants are Nufi people. The rapacious Filatahs lately paid them a visit, and took away the whole of their crop of corn. There is now a native of Kinami for sale in the market of Egga, (two hours higher up the river,) who was carried off from his home by them. A number of Kinami people have come on board during the day; among them an old woman, who came to consult me for an aggravated case of lepra. I did what I could for the poor creature, and the chief expressed his gratitude by thanking me, and sending off a jar of native beer, which was rather acid, but not otherwise disagreeable. The patients were by no means improving, and during the day the carpenter's mate, a quarter-master, the captain's steward, one of the sappers and miners, and a private marine, were added to the sick-list.

The name of the headman at "Kinami" is Atchieko. He was appointed by the Nufi king, Magia, who now resides at Sakuma, a town beyond Rabbah, and has been totally divested of power, being in fact a slave himself since the conquest of the country by the Filatahs. A tribute to the amount of 20,000 cowries is annually exacted by the Filatahs from the Kinami people. This sum, although apparently not large, they have often great difficulty in having ready for their tax-master. Robbed as they continually are of their agricultural implements, their clothes, their

crops, and even their children, they are kept in a state of constant terror and poverty. A boy was lately carried off from Kinami by the Filatahs to Egga, where he was exposed in the market-place for sale. His parents, poor, miserable, and heart-broken, resolved to make an attempt to redeem their child, and sold everything they possessed. With the cowries raised in this way, the father hurried off to Egga, hoping to be able to purchase his *own child*. His all was not enough for his rapacious foes. "Go back," said the Filatah, "you must get more cowries." "Yes," answered the half-distracted man, "I will endeavour to get more." Upon this the Filatah said, "You had better not come here; if you do, we will sell *you*." The mother, who was impatiently waiting the result, on being told that her child was not, on any terms, to be ransomed, wept long and bitterly.

At Kinami, domestic slaves are sold, only in the event of their attempting to run off. Theft is punished by being flogged for the first offence, and being *sold* for the second. No slave-owner can legally inflict a heavier punishment upon a slave. The crime of murdering a slave is expiated by a heavy pecuniary fine; but killing any other than a slave is punished with death.

No slaves are sold at Kinami; those for sale being always sent to Egga, where a market is held every fifth day.

The condition of the domestic slave differs little from that of his master, except that for some offences, or upon *a great emergency*, he *may* be sold. The town belongs to the district called Bushi, which extends from the bank opposite Bachinku as far as Egga, and comprises about forty towns and villages, containing a population of upwards of thirty thousand. At Kinami, there are not more than a thousand inhabitants. I should say, that the number of huts in Kinami is not much short of seven or eight hundred; so that, the population may seem to be estimated as much too low. But from the disturbed state of the country, people are every day changing their place of residence, and consequently many of the huts are neglected, and become uninhabitable. The people in the Bushi district seem to be a laborious and industrious race. They weave a cloth, of good texture, purchasing the cotton from the Nufi people on the left bank, where it grows in great abundance. The value of a bag of cotton containing about twelve pounds' weight, is cowries to the value of about 6*d.* sterling. Rice is cultivated to a considerable extent in the Bushi district; but the unusuul height of the river this season has destroyed the whole crop. The people told us, that elephants abounded in the neighbourhood, but that they did not kill many, and consequently had little or no ivory for sale. They send yams, sheep, and goats to the Egga market; and obtain salt from Dohma. The Rabbah people are

said to get the salt from "Yauri," where it is brought from the interior of the Haussa country.

Mr. Schön endeavoured to find out what notions they entertained of a future state. They said a good man may "take road again;" but that a bad man never could "take road again." They could not tell where the good man would "take road to," nor did they know what became of the bad man; or if either of them came back after death. Mr. Schön asked, what they thought would happen to a man who had committed murder, but was never found out, and consequently never punished in this world. The answer was, that the murderer and murdered would meet before God, who knew all things; and that He would punish the murderer. The headman and others listened attentively to Mr. Schön, while he explained to them the leading doctrines of the Christian religion. They said, they were glad to hear that, by God's grace, some of our countrymen might be sent to them, "to teach them better things." Some of our Nufi men, who were cutting wood, told their countrymen that an English settlement had been formed at the Confluence, and assured them of the good intentions of the English towards the black men; which they heard with delight, and expressed a wish to be removed to the settlement, where they should have protection.

Sept. 26*th.*—The weather throughout the day has been fine and clear, but the heat terribly oppressive, the thermometer 92° Fahr. in the coolest part of the

ship. Divine service was performed by Mr. Schön. Our congregation, alas! what with death, with those who had left us at the Confluence, and those lying sick around us, seemed reduced to a mere skeleton of what we had been.

In the afternoon Mr. Saunders, Second Master, was taken ill.

Sept. 27*th.*—Got under weigh towards the evening for a short time, chiefly with the view of removing the stagnated atmosphere of the ship, by connecting the ventilating fanner with the engine. A small quantity of chlorine was also diffused over the vessel, through the medium of the medicator, which was found to be grateful to the patients. About eight o'clock, John Fuge, an able seaman, died.

Sept. 28*th.*—The remains of poor Fuge were interred this morning on the right bank. Mr. Schön read the funeral service. We were shortly afterwards on our way to Egga. At eleven A.M. we were approaching the town, which lies on the right bank, near to the river. The huts seem to be densely packed together. Extensive table-mountains were seen in the distance. To the northward there were the Rennell Mountains, and the Earl Grey and Admiralty Ranges.

The only remaining engineer now began to feel the effect of the duties, which of late had pressed hard upon him, and he was laid down shortly after we anchored at Egga. Several of the patients were in a very low condition, and one of the best seamen was in a state of great danger.

Abstract of Meteorological Journal from Abòh to Egga.

	Barom. Average Height.	Average of Ther. Fahr.	Average of Dew Point.	Winds.
At Abòh, Iddah, and confluence of Niger and Tchadda.	29·690	84·00	73·50	Very light, S.W. generally calm.
Confluence of Niger and Tchadda to Egga.	29·570	86·60	72·00	During tornados, easterly.

At Egga I was prevented going on shore, owing to the number of sick on board the ship; but Mr. Schön and Dr. Stanger, who were several times on shore, furnished me kindly with much information relative to the place. These gentlemen carried a message to the chief Roga, or Rogang, a Nufi by birth, but now under the rule of the Filatahs. Before they were admitted to the chief, they had to undergo the tedium of long waiting, so common among the Africans. This was rendered the less tolerable by reason of the immense crowds hemming them in, in all directions, and hardly affording breathing room. At length there appeared preparatory signs of the chief's arrival, which consisted in spreading a mat on a mud elevation about two feet from the ground, destined for his occupancy. Over the mat were thrown a leopard's skin and leathern

cushions stuffed with cotton. In a short time Rogang came in and sat down. He soon pulled off his sandals and commenced scratching his toes and eating gooranuts*. A mat with a bolster was spread on the floor for Mr. Schön and Dr. Stanger. After the usual interchange of compliments they invited him to come on board the 'Albert.' To this he made no reply, but soon said that it was time for them to drink water with him, (meaning beer made of Guinea corn,) which was found by no means disagreeable. The chief's house seemed to differ little from those of the people, except that its compartments were less crowded and huddled together than in theirs. A stranger is seldom admitted within doors, audiences being generally held in the open air. The chief soon requested them to follow him, and they passed through a compartment, at the further end of which there was a door, bolted inside. Leading from this door there was an open space, about twelve feet long and seven wide, comfortably shaded. Here the visitors were again requested to be seated on the mat. The chief soon seated himself on another opposite to them. Only three of his people were admitted, who appeared more as servants than counsellors; they, however, occasionally threw in a word or two of re-

* A very pleasant bitter, the seed of the "Sterculia Acuminata," thus described by Sprengel: "Foliis oblongis, acuminatis, integerrimis glabris, longe petiolatis, paniculis axillaribus, antheris 2 serialibus sessilibus fructibus, 1 Spermis." (Guinea.)

mark. The old chief told the visitors that he was most desirous to see the captain; that he had heard of our coming, and was glad to know that we came not for war but for peace; but that he was deterred from going on board for fear of the Filatahs. Were he to go on board the English ship, the news would instantly fly to Rabbah, and the king then would at once say, "Oh! Rogang has joined the whites," (of whom the king stands in great fear,) and no sooner would the white people leave than he (Rogang) would suffer for his imprudence. On being told that the great object of the Expedition was to abolish the slave trade, he said, that he was aware of that, and was perfectly willing to act in favour of our views, but that he could do nothing until he saw what the king did in the affair. He plainly told them that he believed the Filatahs would not be favourable to our plans. He thought that such a grand measure could only be brought about through the instrumentality of God; and he hoped that God's hand would be with us, and thereby the thing would be brought to pass. He acknowledged that he did not like the Filatahs, and would be glad to be relieved from their thraldom. Rogang would not show any slaves; the report of our having liberated those in Ajimba's canoe, some days before, having already reached Egga. Mr. Schön assured him that the faith had not been broken by us, but by the people of the Attah of Iddah. Rogang, however, thought as we had already liberated Ajimba's slaves, we might do the

same by others; and it was only after a full and detailed explanation of the circumstances attending the seizure of the canoe, that he was persuaded we had acted with justice. In the early part of the "palaver" there were a few Filatahs present; but none were admitted into the private yard of the chief, and those whom they saw approached not in the friendly manner of the Nufi people. They appeared more as spies, or people whose countenances indicated that they were engaged in a bad cause. Two or three Arabs were seen, who spoke Haussa very well. The colour of their skin was only a shade darker than that of the Spaniards. As the night was approaching they bade adieu to the excellent old chief, who presented them with country lamps each, very nicely made of clay, and curiously painted and ornamented.

September 29th, Wednesday.—As this was market-day at Egga, and consequently likely to afford a good opportunity of seeing the various articles brought to that city for sale, Dr. Stanger and Mr. Schön proceeded to Rogang's palace, where they had to wait for some hours, surrounded by a mob, whose incessant noise was deafening, and the pressure of the crowd, under a burning sun, insupportable. All were anxious to sell their little wares: calabashes beautifully wrought and carved, silk from Bornù, natron from the same place, country cloth, net work, Guinea corn, yams, Indian corn, sweet potatoes, dried fish, a few European articles, a piece of cotton handkerchief, beads and gun-powder, about

fifteen horses, and Guinea corn pounded with shea butter.

Amongst the articles of manufacture, the country cloth deserves the first notice. Throughout the town there are not less than two hundred looms in operation. The cloth is seldom made broader than three inches, and these bands are afterwards sewed together to the required size. The bands are sometimes made sixty yards long. Of the cloth thus manufactured, tobes, and all their apparel, are made. The cloth is sometimes white, more generally blue, striped with gray and red. The dyes are indigo and camwood. Camwood is powdered in a large mortar: three women, provided with pestles, beating in regular succession. When reduced to a fine powder and mixed with clay, it is used as a dye for the body. Red seems to be, under any circumstances, considered ornamental to the person. No iron pots were seen, but earthen vessels for cooking of various sizes.

In the rambles of Dr. Stanger and Mr. Schön through the town, they observed a place roofed in, filled with people; some of them were soon discovered to be slaves*, and a conversation was begun with the slave-dealer. He spoke the Haussa language, showed no

* At the slave-market there was a large sheep for sale; its legs were remarkably long. It was from the Háussa country, and was covered with brownish sleeky hair—long, particularly about the neck, back, and feet. Head small, nose prominent, ears very pendulous.

reluctance to answer any question, and at once admitted that he sold slaves, but that they were not his own property, he being merely an agent. He had at this time for sale, twelve women, and three boys about seven or eight years old: all prisoners of war to the Filatahs. 40,000 cowries were asked for each of the women, and 20,000 for each of the children. He said that there were few slaves sold now, compared with former days; the demand which had been at one time so great, for the Gori and Kiri markets, having now nearly altogether ceased. He added, that it would be necessary to send all the slaves now, to Rabbah, which he considered to be the chief slave-market in the interior of Africa. Mr. Schön explained the object of our mission, and reasoned on the sinfulness of slavery, as being contrary to the law of God, and productive of great evils to themselves.

The dealer granted the force of what Mr. Schön said, and replied, that although contrary to God's law, it was in accordance with the laws of the King of Rabbah: and if the king could be persuaded to change the law, he would be very glad, and so would, he believed, the rest of the people. He also said, that neither Rogang, nor Ederissa, were in a position to enter into a treaty with England. The King of the Filatahs would treat any treaty made by them, just as he thought proper.

On returning to the chief's residence, he was much pleased to see them both, and they entered at once

into the subject of the treaty, when he at once said, that it was not in his power to engage in anything of the kind. They then asked him, whether he would send a messenger to Rabbah, with a message from the Commissioners of the Queen of England. He also refused to do this, on the ground, that the king might suppose him to be intriguing with the white people. In his opinion, if one vessel was to visit Rabbah yearly, slavery might in time be done away with.

Egga appears to be the largest town we have as yet seen on the Niger. The population is not much under 10,000. The houses are of a conical form, somewhat similar to those at Iddah. The doors are higher, and therefore render ingress and egress much more convenient. They are closely packed together and in some places there is not room for two to walk abreast, in the streets. The walls of the huts are built of clay, rendered more cohesive by having grass mixed up with it. Some of the walls are fifteen inches thick, while others do not exceed six inches. Some of the fronts of the huts are beautifully smooth, and stained with indigo. As at Iddah, there is generally an outer circular wall, between which and that of the hut, a piazza, which is the general place of resort. Besides this, it serves to keep the inner apartment cool. There is seldom more than one door to each hut; windows are a luxury not yet introduced. The town is entirely surrounded by swamps at this season, which the inhabitants say become dry

in the hot season, when sickness breaks out. While we were there, the town was completely surrounded by water, and the land for miles, in all directions, was completely inundated. Dr. Stanger, on wading two miles from the main stream, (here about a mile in breadth,) was still up to his middle in water, when he reached a shea butter-tree, which he found to be not very lofty, but umbrageous. The mortality among the natives after the rains is very great. In many parts of the town the stench is horrible. The Nufi is the prevailing language, though many others are spoken, among which may be mentioned Yariba, Haussa, Filatah, Egarra and Bornù. People from these countries have joined the Filatahs, some from choice, but the greater part from coercion.

With regard to the religion of the Egga people, it seems to differ little from that of those lower down the river; the same mixture of Paganism and Mohamedism exists; but there are fewer charms and idols than in the countries below Iddah. In the mallam's house at Egga, there were several books and scraps of leaves, all well written in Arabic, but he could not read them himself. Even the few who could read them, did not understand them.

The shea butter-tree (*Bassia Parkia*), abounds in this neighbourhood, and the butter is extensively made. A quantity in a large earthen pot, containing about sixteen pounds, was purchased in the market for cowries to the amount of two shillings. Specimens

of leaves and fruit were obtained, but no tree was seen bearing flowers*.

The Nufi people extend over a great territory, and may comprise 100,000 people. The nation may be said to extend from the Confluence, on the left bank, beyond Rabbah. On the right bank there are also Nufi people, but they are more assimilated with the Filatahs. The Nufi people are, generally, marked in the face thus:—three elliptical gashes extending from the temple to the mouth, and one from the nose, crossing the cheek; sometimes there

* Bassia, Lin., named by Ferdinand Bassi, Curator of the Botanical Garden at Bologna. Natural order, *Sapotaceæ*, called Parkia, in honour of the distinguished African traveller Mungo Park, who brought specimens of the tree to England, and described it as resembling the American oak. The butter, according to M. Chevreul, consists of a small proportion of aromatic principle; 2dly, of oleine; 3dly, of stearine: this last is analogous to the stearine of mutton fat, for, in saponification, it gives stearic acid. This vegetable butter, according to the same chemist, is perfectly liquid at 120° Fahrenheit; at 100·250°, it begins to get turbid; at 95⅘°, it exhibits a liquid portion, in which floats some brilliant crystals: the liquid part is a combination of oleine and stearine. A thermometer plunged into melted vegetable butter, falls to 80¾°; it afterwards ascends to 89⅘°, when the vegetable butter becomes concrete. The vegetable butter is easily converted into soap, when heated with a solution of potass or soda; and the soaps thus obtained are analogous to those made with mutton fat, with this advantage, that they are indorous. It would therefore be a valuable article in many of our manufactures.

are more than three*. The hair is shaved so as to leave three circular patches: one behind, one in the middle, and the other in the front. Most of the Nufi men I saw at Egga, wore the tobe: many of them were dressed with a cloth, which hung somewhat gracefully from one shoulder, after the fashion of the Roman toga. They were, in general, tall and well made: the form

* The Nufi people have a cicatrix under each eye, while the Kakandas have three gashes on the cheek; but even these are not invariable.

The custom of painting the eye-lids of a dark blue colour with "galena" prevails here to a great extent indeed; it has been generally seen especially among the females since we left Eboe (Abòh). This fashion is alluded to in Jeremiah, ch. iv. 30th verse, the word eye being rendered *face* in the translation. It is also spoken of in 2nd Kings, ix. 30. It gives to the eye a calm, soft appearance. The nails are also occasionally dyed with a leaf called Henna. This is called, in Nufi, Laleh; in Arabic, "Hanna." The galena is generally contained in small leathern bottles, with rounded globular bottoms, and long narrow necks; in the stopper of the bottle a long pencil is fixed, with which the staining of the eye-lids is performed. Kohol is the Arabic name of this dye. In a note appended to Moore's Lalla Rookh, in explanation of "Kohol's jetty dye"—"None of these ladies," says Shaw, "take themselves to be completely dressed till they have tinged the hair and edges of their eyelids with the powder of lead ore." Now as this operation is performed first by dipping into the powder a small wooden bodkin of the thickness of a quill, and then drawing it afterwards through the eyelids over the ball of the eye, we shall have a lively image of what the prophet (Jer. iv. 30) may be supposed to mean, "by renting the face with painting." This practice is no doubt of great antiquity; for besides the instance already taken notice, we find that when Jezebel is said (2nd Kings, ix. 30) to have painted her face, the original words are, she adjusted her eyes with the powder of lead.

of the head, the countenance, the contour of figure, and the lighter shade of the colour of the skin, indicated an intermixture of the Caucasian with the Negro race.

A man may marry as many wives as he can afford to purchase. The price of a bride is 20,000 cowries, which is paid to the parents, the consent of the damsel not being at all considered necessary. The payment of the money and a grand feast ratify the compact. A man may send his wife away, but he cannot make a slave of her, or sell her. The Filatahs marry Nufi women, but never give their women in marriage to Nufi men. The Filatahs observe the law of the Koran with regard to the number of wives, never having more than four. Mr. Schön told them, that Christian people never took more than one wife: and God had so ordered it. They were surprised to hear that God had so appointed it. One man seemed particularly struck with this communication; and asked again, and again, "If God really had said so."

Saturday, October 2nd.—From what Mr. Schön could learn from mallams and others, it would appear that although there are nominally two Nufi kings, yet all matters of importance are referred to the court at Rabbah; and no chief, of whatever rank, or however high in court favour, can enter into a treaty, or act in any way, without permission from Sumozariki. The burden of his yoke seems to hang heavy on the Nufi people; and they make no secret of the prevalence of

a general desire to rid themselves of the usurper. One of our interpreters, a Filatah man, found out to-day that it was generally understood that Mamagia Ederisa, the chief of Egga, and a younger brother of Sumozariki had resolved to unite their powers to remove their common oppressor. It is even said that they seriously intend to attack the town of Rabbah next month. The Yarriba people, who are now also tributary to the Filatahs, are quite ripe to join any effort to obtain their former independence.

The Filatah power has been extending for many years in Africa: they obtained possession in Nufi about twenty-three years since, on the occasion of the death of King Musa, when a dispute arose as to who should succeed him,—a case by no means uncommon at the demise of an African king. His son, Mamagia, was the first claimant of the throne, and his nephew, (son of his eldest sister,) called Jematu, also became a candidate for this honour. Mamagia called in the Filatah assistance (an unwise measure). "Jematu" was killed, but "Isa*" his son, carried on the war, until

* Lander's account differs from this. He says that Ederissa and Mamagia are brothers: that Ederissa is the eldest, and is the proper claimant of the throne. In short, Lander says that Ederissa actually succeeded his father, and was acknowledged king by the nation. Magia or Mamagia, the younger brother, rebelled, and begged the assistance of Bello, the Sultan of Sokatu, who at once reinforced Magia's rebel army by a body of soldiers. Ederissa was defeated, and obliged to leave Nufi. Magia reigned, paying Bello an annual tribute. Ederissa was again called to the throne, and was desirous of expelling

ultimately, the kingdom was divided, and both divisions became a province of the King of Rabbah.

Ederissa, more correctly "Ezu Issa," lives at present at Barra, a town said to be about a day's journey higher up on left bank, than Egga. Mamagia dwells above Rabbah, at a place called Lakuma or Sakuma.

Sumozariki must be one of the most powerful chiefs in Central Africa. His present territory is great, and he is continually extending his power. He pays merely a nominal tribute to Bello*, the reigning sultan of Sokatu. His own exactions from the Nufis and Kakandas are upon a very different scale.

The proper name of Ederisa, is Isa or Issa, and Ezu signifies King in the Nufi language. The proper mode of expression is therefore Ezu Issa, the King Issa; or Ezu Mamagia, the King Mamagia. There were several mallams on board this morning; mallams so called, but they could not read or write. What ministers of religion they must be! No wonder that a moral gloom hangs over this country. Mr. Schön found, that though professing Mahometism, they knew little or nothing of its tenets, and expressed a strong

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the Filatahs from Nufi. Magia at once perceived his opportunity, and the Filatahs again joined him, and again defeated Ederissa, and restored Magia. Magia was again deposed; and it is probable that a Filatah ruler has been at Egga ever since.

* Bello, it is said, is dead, and was succeeded by his brother Atieko (?)

desire to learn of us. They are glad to know that we are messengers of peace. They said, "when we heard that white men were coming, we were afraid of war; but since we have heard that you come for peace, we rejoice." This must be of God, for the mallam of Sokatu has sent letters to intreat all Filatah people to "sit and be quiet." The white people are saying the same thing, so "this must be of God." The women unhesitatingly brought their children on board to be vaccinated. And the mallams were not a little pleased at being taught how to perform the operation.

James Macaulay, one of the Nufi interpreters engaged at Sierra Leone, accidentally met with his sister in the streets of Egga. This man had been enslaved and sold twenty years before, when he was sent down to the coast. Her object in coming on board, was to see if Captain Trotter could intercede with the Filatahs in her behalf, as they had lately carried off two of her children to Sokatu.

The Krumen were engaged all day in cutting wood on the bank opposite to Egga.

The weather continues sultry and most oppressive during the day. A tornado in the evening was welcomed by all on board,—by the healthy as well as by the sick.

George Syme, quartermaster, was added to the number dead, in the evening. An examination of the body was hurriedly made on the sponson the following morning.

October 3rd.—This day our hopes of penetrating further into the interior received a finishing blow. Our arduous, enterprising, and kind chief, who was complaining yesterday, has now unmistakeable symptoms of fever. Commander Bird Allen lies in a very critical state, and upwards of twenty others of our companions are completely prostrated. In short, of the whites at all fit for duty, there remain only one seaman, the serjeant, and one private of marines, John Huxley, sick attendant, John Duncan, master-at-arms, Mr. Willie, mate, Dr. Stanger, and myself. Mr. Willie, I fear, is not altogether well. How unfortunate is all this! To be arrested as it were, at the very threshold of this fine open country, where the mountain ranges—tabular, rounded, and of all forms, seen afar, rising majestically on the clear horizon, invite us with all the interest and attraction that belongs to unknown regions.

But in our present weakened condition, we are not fit to meet the contingency of getting aground, and other difficulties likely to arise, in navigating a comparatively unknown, and now falling river*.

The time, therefore, seems now to have arrived when there is no reasonable prospect of our reaching Rabbah this season; and no alternative left us but to return to the sea with all possible speed.

* Dr. Stanger found by the marks on shore that the water had fallen fourteen inches on the 29th September, and on the 5th October not less than three feet.

This resolution having been taken in the morning, the anchor was weighed, and the vessel dropped down with the stream, a few miles below Egga, where we anchored in the evening.

Those only who were with Captain Trotter from first to last in the Expedition, and had an opportunity of observing with what unceasing zeal, what untiring energy he devoted himself to its grand objects, can form any idea of the painful sacrifice stern necessity compelled him to make, when he issued the order to turn the vessel's head downwards, and relinquish designs, which his benevolent mind had so long and so ardently cherished.

To say more of this excellent man on this trying occasion, might appear unseemly. Justice to my own feelings, as well as to him, tells me I ought not to say less.

AVERAGES OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT AND BELOW EGGA, FROM THE 1ST TO THE 5TH OCTOBER; BOTH DAYS INCLUDED. (3 P.M.)

Barometer.	Thermometer.	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew Point.	Winds.
29·540	89·33	90·00	79·30	72·16	Dead calm all day. Occasional tornados during night.

CHAPTER IV.

Rogang's opinion of the Model Farm—Illness of the engineers—Doctor Stanger volunteers to manage the engines—Village of Buddu—Kakanda, tributary to the Attàh of Iddah—Filatah exactions—The captured slaves belonging to the Chief of Muyè—Influence of medical men among the natives—Mallam doctors—Anxious to introduce vaccination—Native method of cupping—One of the officers jumps overboard in a paroxysm of fever—Saved by two Africans—Mr. Lodge, engineer, drowned—Sickness of all the Europeans employed at the Model Establishment—Their removal—Prices of provisions—Progress down the river—Doctor MacWilliam's trying position—Aduku's kind wishes—Increasing sickness of 'Albert's' crew, and death of Mr. Kingdon—King Obi somewhat redeems his character by assisting the 'Albert'—The Abòh chief judge frightened—Meet the 'Ethiope'—Anxious period for Doctors Mac Williams and Stanger—Tribute to Mr. Beecroft for his generous services—The 'Albert' reaches Fernando Po.

On the 5th October Captain Trotter sent Mr. Brown to the chief of Egga, with a message for the King of Rabbah, relative to the objects of the Expedition, accompanied by a present, including a print of the vessels of the Expedition. A present was also sent to Rogang himself, who was now altogether much pleased, and expressed great satisfaction that a mes-

sage was to be sent to Sumoraziki, which would remove all chance of his imagining that he (Rogang) had in any way prejudiced the captain against him.

Rogang says that there are rocks obstructing the passage in the river, betwixt Rabbah and Boussa, so as to prevent canoes passing easily at any time. Consequently, people always travel by land when the water is low. Rogang also said that canoes cannot pass at any time from Rabbah to Yauri; and that the journey from the one place to the other occupies about six days. In seven months more, according to his statement, the river will be high enough for our vessels to go from the sea to Rabbah. Cotton is grown extensively on the bank opposite to Rabbah. Rogang thinks it would be beneficial to all, for the English to make a settlement there, but that the permission of the Rabbah king is to be obtained first.

The king would like, no doubt, to have the courtesy of asking permission paid him; but Rogang does not think he would be hostile to the measure, even if entered into without his consent being first obtained.

The comparatively civilized state of the inhabitants of Rabbah, its position, the enterprising character of its ruler, and the present extension of Filatah influence throughout the Niger, are valid reasons for opening up intercourse with this city*.

* Rabbah, according to Captain Allen's chart, is 433 miles from the sea; and allowing a steamer to have a speed of eight knots an hour,

Sumoraziki once gained over to our views, and Rabbah open to us, there would follow very little difficulty in holding the Attàh of Iddah, and Obi, king of Abòh (the only other chiefs of any importance in the Niger,) strictly by the terms of the treaties they have entered into with us.

Continued dropping down with the stream until the evening, when we anchored near a village.

October 6th.—Dr. Stanger has undertaken to work the engines, with some assistance from Mr. Brown, the only engineer able to move out of bed. The steam has accordingly been got up, and we have been making good way all day. Mr. Willie is now too ill to have any charge, and I have been obliged to attend to the duties of the ship, as well as to the sick. Captain Trotter is a little better; but Commander B. Allen and Lieutenant Stenhouse are both dangerously ill. At half-past twelve, the vessel touched the ground, but by reversing the engines, was soon got from one fathom to three fathoms' water. About five in the afternoon the vessel again struck on a bank near Adama Dalù, but soon got off. Shortly afterwards, anchored for the night near the left bank, on the opposite side of the river to Buddu, a Kakanda town already spoken of.

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she could reach Rabbah in seven and a quarter days of twelve hours, at full speed. Six days would be required for her return, with proper prudence, until the river is better known.

Thursday, October 7th.—Accompanied by Messrs. Schön and Brown, landed in the morning at Buddu, for the purpose of having an interview with the chief there, and putting some queries to him relative to the slave trade, the state of the country, and how far these were affected by the Filatah incursions. Our progress in the boat was occasionally obstructed by tall reeds and clumps of bushes of a beautiful papilionaceous plant, (*Sesbania punctata*), in full blossom, showing to what an extent the river was here still beyond its usual limit; the space covered by water between both shores being not under a mile and a half. We found that the chief had left Buddu to be present at a palaver at Iddah; but his son, an agreeable young fellow, about twenty-eight years of age, soon joined us; and he, as well as some of the headmen, was very willing to answer all our interrogations. We were desired to accompany Mamansa and the other headmen to the court behind Mamansa's house, where a great number of people crowded round us. When we had, after a long exercise of patience, obtained something like silence, we were able to elicit the following information relating to points which Captain Trotter was desirous of knowing.

The present Attàh of Iddah has ruled nearly four years, but the Kakanda people, a name synonymous with what the Africans, especially the Iddah people, call "Tchabbi," have from time immemorial been subject to the monarch at Iddah, and have paid

tribute to the Filatahs about ten years. The Attàh, although possessing full power over the Kakandas, limits his annual exactions to a low rate. A horse is all that is demanded; a tribute so small as to seem, surely, more for the purpose of keeping up authority, than for exercising the power it might entitle the Attàh to. The same small tribute is paid at Gori, one of the great markets; more has never been paid, otherwise it might have been supposed that the Attàh had of late deemed it prudent to accept any acknowledgment of allegiance from people a long way from him, and under such fearful subjugation to another power, which even menaces himself, namely the Filatahs. These inexorable foes paid them a visit three moons since, but they then gave them a sum, and promised, in conjunction with the people of Rikido*, on the opposite bank, to pay one hundred thousand cowries annually. Now, so long as they can afford this, the Filatahs will leave them unmolested, but if they fail to have it ready at the stated period, then they will take people in lieu thereof. The resources of the Kakanda people are at present insufficient to insure a constant supply for their exactions, and if money be not forthcoming, slaves must be made. Hence, so long as Filatah power continues, slavery

* Fire-arms are used by the Filatahs; each has his musket. They have also spears and swords, bows and arrows, deadly poisoned. In their predatory excursions they are generally on horseback.

will exist. It signifies not who are enslaved, but they must have the amount of tribute, *at least.* On some occasions, the Kakanda people ransom their friends from the Filatahs.

The Attàh of Iddah has proclaimed the articles of treaty here, though all of them did not seem to be acquainted with them. The Buddu people candidly acknowledged that they had been great slave-dealers, in short, that the trade had been their great source of emolument. But now, they say, they will not purchase more slaves, but only retain the domestic slaves they already have. On inquiring their opinion of the nature of the treaty, and about our capturing the three slaves belonging to the chief of Muyè, "Omeh" of the Chart, they said, "You are stronger than we are, and you can do as you like; we are willing to obey you." It was answered, that the Queen of England had no desire in this instance to act with force; her reason was simply to ameliorate the condition of the black men, and prevent their being made slaves of; that for this end, much trouble was taken now, and had been taken for many years; much expense incurred; and much white life had been lost. But the liberation of man from slavery was in accordance with God's law, which taught that we should love God, and our neighbour as ourselves. They seemed certainly struck with Mr. Schön's exposition of the miseries and horrors of slavery, and said, "As far as we are concerned, we would give it up, and now must do so; but it would

be good if the Filatahs could be persuaded that the traffic was bad; were this the case, they would cease to sell us when the tribute was not forthcoming."

Macaulay, one of our interpreters, had been a slave at this very town, and, curious to say, almost the first female we met was the woman who sold him. She laughed heartily, and seemed delighted at seeing her former slave, and wished to present him with a fowl if he could stop a little. She was a stout little woman, with some fearful gashes in her face. She laughed and said that she was not hitherto aware that it was wrong to sell slaves, but after all she never wished to part with Macaulay; her husband insisted upon it, and, acting upon the doctrine of obedience, she gave way to her better half. Macaulay was born at Mamagia (Nufi). When a boy he was stolen by the Filatahs, and taken by them to Egga, who sold him to a mallam of Kakanda, called La-firma, who sold him again to the Buddu damsel; she in turn disposed of him to King Obi; Obi sent him with a canoe load of slaves to King Peppel of Bonny, by whom he was sold to a Spanish slave ship, which was taken by one of our cruisers.

They denied that human sacrifice had ever been made by them or their ancestors, even before the introduction of Mahomedism. They sacrifice only goats, sheep, and fowls, to propitiate the Deity.

I have been all along very desirous to extend the

benefit of vaccination to the tribes of the Niger, and have at most places vaccinated, and recommended it to the mallams on every occasion. I explained its use to one or two mallams, and to Mamansa, the chief's son. Mamansa was particularly struck with what was told him, and at once begged to be shown how to operate himself. He inserted the lymph into the arms of six boys, and really with neatness and skill, although I dare say he never saw a lancet before in his life. But the people here seem to have great imitative power. Before my friend Mamansa made his debut as an operator, I showed him the mode of proceeding, in two cases. He then took the lancet, and performed, with an address that would have delighted my friend Dr. Gilham, of the National Vaccine Institution.

Speaking of vaccination, I would here remark, that I feel confident, that medicine and surgery, judiciously exercised, will form important elements in any endeavour to civilize the tribes on the banks of the Niger. The same will obtain, I believe, throughout Africa. The Africans have the most sacred confidence in the powers of medicine. Medical practitioners are nowhere more respected. When first I proposed vaccination as an effectual remedy for one of their most direful scourges in the dry season, it is true many of the mothers listened with doubt, and eventually ran away with their children; but we must not forget the bitter

animosity entertained by enlightened men of the day in our own country, against one of the greatest medical discoveries ever promulgated to the world. Upwards of half a century has passed away, and the prejudice against vaccination has not altogether disappeared with time. I have said, many of the African mothers were doubtful of this new remedy, but great numbers staid and submitted their children to the operation, when its simplicity and after benefits were clearly explained to them.

Although the practice of medicine is in the lowest state of degradation, clouded with all possible superstitions, yet its professors, the mallams, are well provided for, and are even looked up to; especially in the Nufi and Kakanda countries. The mallams (chiefly from Rabbah,) profess to teach Mohammedanism, and to practice the healing art. Charms in the form of scraps from the Koran, are resorted to in all cases of difficulty. They circumcise and scarify when there is any local pain in the fevers of the country. This ritual is performed at an early age. Their sole instrument is a country razor. The mallams are paid according to the circumstances of the patients. At Egga, I understand a sheep, a goat, and several thousand cowries are often the "fee" for one operation. It is through the mallams that I entertain strong hopes of extending vaccination throughout Africa, at all events, along the banks of the Niger. Desirous as they are

to add to their importanee, they will be quite ready to have the boast of a new operation, whieh is in itself so simple. Self-interest, then, will prompt them to attend to vaeeination, and in proeess of time, the people themselves will be able to appreeiate in some degree the value of Jenner's immortal diseovery.

I have seen few people in England submit so quietly and willingly to medieal or surgieal treatment as the Afrieans do. I have, for instanee, proposed to a man to be operated upon for eataraet. He has sat down. The lens has been depressed, and he has afterwards walked quietly into his boat.

Ajimba, the son of the ehief of Muyè, who was the owner of the slaves we took from the eanoe on our way upwards, eame on board with two mallams. They were aeeompanied by the slave boy on whom I operated for eataraet. He was delighted that he could count the number of fingers held to his eye, of whieh he was before stone blind.

Mamansa, asked me to give him a eharm to preserve his health and strength.

Buddu appears to be the ehief town of Kakanda. It is situated on the right bank of the Niger. The town, whieh eonsists of two parts, may contain from three to four thousand inhabitants. The huts are circular, built of clay, and, what I had not before seen, on the summit of the eone of grass whieh forms the roof, there was an earthen pot, blaek and polished,

about a foot in diameter, and two feet deep, inverted. This Marmansa said prevented the huts being struck with lightning. The people seem to be idle; there was little doing, and the canoes were of an inferior order. The men had their heads shaven, generally so as to leave two or more circular patches of hair. Their dress consisted of the clout only. A few tobes were seen. The hair of the women was generally arranged in small plaits, hanging round the ears like the fringe-work of a curtain; some had the head entirely shaved. A man may have as many wives as he can afford to keep. The skin of some of the women was here and there stained with camwood, and the galena to the eyelids seemed to be common.

Satchaw has been fifteen years chief here, but the Attàh has not as yet thought fit formally to confirm him in his appointment. Another chief is talked of, but his name is not yet known.

In the dry season, fevers carry off a great many, Small pox also prevails as well as fever, bowel complaints, and sore eyes.

Before we left, Mamansa presented us with a goat, and a large jar of beer, which he said would make a good breakfast for us.

All were glad to hear of our settlement at the confluence, and said they would be happy to go and make trade with our people, and see how they build their huts, and how they cultivated the ground. They liked

white men, and would be much pleased to see some white mallams. About twelve returned to the ship and weighed; steamed till two P.M., then dropped down below Muyè (Omeh of the chart), and anchored there for the night.

October 8th.—Last night about twelve o'clock, while snatching a few minutes' sleep on one of the gun-room lockers, I was awoke by a splash in the water, followed by a loud scream. Rushing on deck, I found, to my horror, that Mr. Wilmett, one of the sick officers, who had been delirious for some days, had contrived, notwithstanding that he was watched by two black men, to push back the slide of his cabin window, and jump overboard. While the boat was being lowered (which was done as soon as possible) William Guy, a Gambia man, and Tom Osmond, a Kruman, leaped into the river, and swam after him. Every one who could manage to crawl was instantly on deck.

It was pitch dark, and the cries of the poor fellow, becoming more and more feeble, as he was being carried rapidly down the river by the force of the current, broke dismally the dead silence of the night, and filled all of us with the most fearful anticipations as to his fate.

No one moved or spoke; the attention of every one was kept painfully on the rack, as the hollow sound of the oars in the rullocks, gradually becoming more distinct, denoted that the boat was returning. At

length, after being kept in a state of torturing anxiety for twenty minutes, we again began to breathe freely, when she came alongside with our shipmate, whom we had all but given up for lost.

The Africans, guided by Wilmett's cries, had followed him close, but did not come up with him until they were a mile below the ship. They contrived to hold him on until the boat dropped down and picked them up*.

Weighed anchor at six A.M., and dropped down with the stream a few miles, while the steam was being got up. The Victoria Range was soon in sight; and as all knew that it was not far from the confluence, there was general joy throughout the ship.

A gloom, however, was thrown over the ship this forenoon a little past eleven. Mr. Lodge, the second engineer, who had for a week been labouring under fever, had manifested on the evening before some symptoms of delirium, and he was, as a matter of precaution, restrained in his cot. In the morning he was quite quiet and sensible, but complained of being bound. In the forenoon he asked me for a drink, and looked perfectly collected. In ten minutes afterwards he got out of his cot unperceived (which was on the poop under an awning and an inverted basket boat) and jumped overboard. Strange to say, although

* Both most deservedly received the diploma and honorary silver medallion from the Royal Humane Society of London.

there were four officers in cots close to him, they did not hear him move, nor did the sick attendants who were on the spot. Poor fellow, he kept up for some time. The boat was dropped astern, but it was doomed that he was not to be rescued, for he sunk and never reappeared.

We were obliged to stop frequently during the day, being often in one and a half fathoms' water, and getting on shore with a falling river, is, under present circumstances, too fearful to contemplate.

In the afternoon several large crocodiles were seen on the banks, some of them not less than twenty feet long. Dr. Stanger fired at one of them and struck it near the neck. The ball, however, glanced off, as the monster quietly took to the water, and made for the rushes immediately afterwards.

Some of the views, on the right bank particularly, have been of the most beautiful kind. Looking up some of the lateral branches, the eye beheld a long vista (so to speak) of water, threading itself through interminable green groves. I know nothing in nature with which to compare what I have seen of this kind of scenery, during the last two days. Were we only blessed with health!

At this period the anxiety of Dr. Stanger and myself for the safety of the vessel, and our mental anguish at seeing nearly all our shipmates in a helpless condition, cannot be expressed.

Captain B. Allen was seemingly sinking in the

course of the afternoon; but he rallied towards the evening.

At six P.M. anchored about six miles above the Confluence.

October 9th.—There was a very heavy tornado last night, followed by a pelting rain. At five in the evening it was beautifully clear; and as all were anxious to ascertain the condition of our friends at the model farm, the vessel was got under weigh by six o'clock, and was dropping with the current when, in rounding a point, she was carried among the bushes; but there being three fathoms' water, did not touch the ground. A kedge was carried out from the larboard bow to the middle stream and weighed, by which means the vessel got clear. The steam was got up soon afterwards, and at about eight we were gratified by a sight of the Eglinton Tent, a conspicuous object on Stirling Hill.

The quantity of cleared land, the advance made in the building of the superintendent's house, and the cheerful aspect of the whole place, seemed to indicate a degree of prosperity and industry that induced us to think that he and his companions had been mercifully protected from disease; but our hopes here were again doomed to disappointment.

No sooner was the anchor dropped than Dr. Stanger and I proceeded on board the 'Amelia,' and found there Mr. Kingdon, schoolmaster, in the low stage of fever; and Mr. Ansell, the gardener, lying in his cot

with the same disease. On shore no better tidings awaited us; for there also Mr. Carr, the superintendent, was found confined to his bed. He had been ill ten days, and was still in a very doubtful state. In such circumstances the course to be adopted was soon determined upon. Captain Trotter was still much indisposed; but I communicated my wishes to him relative to the superintendent and the two Europeans, as well as my ideas regarding the future management of the settlement. He desired me to act, as under existing circumstances I best saw fit; and being confirmed in my opinion by that of Dr. Stanger, it was resolved at once to remove Mr. Carr, Mr. Kingdon, and Mr. Ansell, on board the 'Albert,' where they would have the benefit of medical assistance, in addition to that likely to accrue from change of climate. The natives had on all occasions been most friendly to the settlers; and labour and provisions in abundance were easily procured at moderate prices. We therefore had no hesitation in placing Ralph Moore, an American negro emigrant, whom we got at Liberia, and a man of steadiness and respectability, in the temporary charge of the model farm, with Neezer, a negro printer, from Sierra Leone, to look after the stores, and otherwise to assist him in the management of the establishment; consisting of twenty negro men, women, and children, from Sierra Leone.

The 'Amelia' was left for the protection of the

settlers, in charge of Thomas King, an intelligent man of colour, and twelve blacks, among whom was William Guy, a steady and good seaman.

King had joined our expedition at Sierra Leone, and his conduct had, in addition to the excellent character given him by Mr. Schön, been such, as to entitle him to every confidence.

During the whole of the day all available hands were employed in providing the settlement and ship with provisions to last nine months, and cowries to purchase enough for three months more, getting wood on board, and making arrangements for our departure the following morning.

Mr. Moore had forty natives employed on the farm, in addition to the artificers and agriculturists brought from Sierra Leone. Eleven acres of ground were cleared, and he purposed planting cotton in a few days, and from the nature of the soil, he anticipated very good crops*.

He said the natives were anxious to be on the most friendly terms with the settlers, and worked readily on

* Some of the natives brought specimens of cotton on board, which looked well. According to Dr. Stanger, "the soil of Stirling Hill, and as far up the river as was explored, is composed of horizontal sandstone, becoming more highly ferruginous as we ascend. At Stirling Hill the iron occurs in the form of pea iron ore." The valleys and flats are in general covered with a rich vegetable mould. The ground subjected to the temporary inundation of the river is generally left more or less swampy.

the farm for cowries to the amount of three-pence per day.

Mr. Carr established with the natives the following tariff of prices for the several articles undermentioned, viz.:—

			Sterling money.
For goats (milch)	1000	cowries	1*s.* 5*d.*
„ ditto (not milch)	800	„	1 0
„ sheep (full grown)	1000	„	1 5
„ fowls (large)	100	„	0 1½
„ ditto (small)	80	„	0 1
„ ducks (Muscovy)	200	„	0 3
„ eggs	from 5 to 10	„	
„ yams (per cwt.)	400	„	0 6
„ tobacco, good, (per 10 lbs.)	500	„	0 7½

All the above articles were to be had in abundance. Mr. Carr said the tobacco was superior to the American tobacco.

In the afternoon a large canoe, loaded with goods of various kinds, passed upwards for the Kirri market.

Sunday, October 10th.—The morning broke beautifully, after heavy rain during the night. At six o'clock I was on shore, and while preparation was being made for the embarkation of Mr. Carr, I walked to the summit of Stirling Hill to take a last look at the lovely scenery of the Confluence.

The morning was perfectly still, and there was a fresh coolness of the atmosphere, now remarkably

clear after the rain. While looking upon these great highways for the advance of civilization into the interior of Africa—the Niger, with its rich tropical vegetation, and the more open and broad expanse of the Tchadda, flowing smoothly from the eastward, with the hills in the far distance to the northward and eastward, I could not but grieve that such a country was about to be abandoned by civilized man; and that an enterprise which had originated in the most noble of human motives, with all appliances that human ingenuity and human foresight could devise for a successful issue; with success granted, for a while, even to our utmost wishes, was now, alas! doomed to so melancholy a termination.

Deeply impressed with the sublimity of the scene, and with a feeling of thankfulness that during the sad reign of sickness and death, some of us were still mercifully protected, I returned to the settlement, where my thoughts were soon engaged in the more immediate and pressing occupation of making preparation to resume the downward voyage.

10 A.M.—Having completed all arrangements, and delivered written orders to the persons left in charge of the farm and ship respectively, the sick were brought on board the 'Albert;' at a quarter past ten the steam was up, and the anchor weighed. At noon we were off Adda Kudu. At two P.M. at Ikori market, and shortly afterwards at the Bird Rock, where the water seemed to have fallen several feet. The current

was strong throughout; and in the afternoon at half-past five, we were off the cliffs at Iddah. At six, anchored two miles below Iddah. Commander B. Allen was in a very languid low state; but sufficiently sensible to express his gratification at the hopes of being soon out of the river. Our rapid progress during the day inspired all the patients with new hopes. Our only marine capable of duty was, however, added to the sick list in the evening. Running about the deck all day managing the ship, (with the assistance of Brown, the negro clerk, who was in the Niger with Lander,) and looking after the patients, I was fain to lay myself down at night, and enjoy a few hours sleep. The state of the sick, however, required my being called several times during the night. Mr. Willie has been delirious during the afternoon.

October 11*th.*—In the morning our old friend Adakū, the Attah's son, came on board, accompanied by two mallams, to know "what was the matter?" Why we had not, as friends of the Attàh, "anchored in his waters, near to his town," as we had done before. The Attàh* had desired them to say, "he

* This term was nowhere used in the Niger except at Iddah. Its identity with the Greek word "Αττὰ," signifying father, chief, or one to be looked upon with respect, will at once be remarked. But it appears that "Attàh" as expressive of "father" is very common in many languages. However, it is not considered a word which one language borrows from another, but rather what is called a word of *organic* origin; *i.e.*, a word that exists in language, independent of any philological connexion.

never liked his friends to be far from him when they were in his neighbourhood," and begged that we would return "to near Iddah." On being told that our only object in leaving the river so hastily was to restore the health of our people, many of whom were sick; they said, "That is quite enough; we must hasten ashore, and tell the Attàh what you say, as he is very anxious to know why you, as his friends, have not called to see him." Adukū said, his father, the Attàh, was much pleased that we had taken the slave canoe, and liberated the slaves, and that "what we had done was quite proper." Adukū hoped "that God would soon make the captain and all the people well;" and added, that his father would send a bullock and yams to the people at the Confluence.

We soon after weighed; at half-past 3, P.M., were at Adamūgū; at seven, anchored off the village Atchaba, a short way below Kirri or Onye market. I was sorry to observe that our excellent and indefatigable chaplain, Mr. Schön, was far from being well during the day. Dr. Stanger was a good deal exhausted in the evening, from being hard at work in the engine-room all day. Mr. Brown, the only engineer able at all to move, rendered Dr. Stanger what assistance he could.

Tuesday, October 12*th.*—There was a heavy squall, with thunder and lightning in the morning, followed by a thick haze, which prevented our weighing until ten o'clock. When at the northern end of Bullock's

Island, about mid-day, we saw seven huge hippopotami in the mud, on the left bank of the river. Some showed their heads only, while the enormous backs of others were distinctly visible above the water.

At five P.M. to our great joy anchored off Abòh, where we were soon surrounded by upwards of a hundred canoes. The vociferations and cheers of the natives welcoming us back, although well meant, were most annoying to the sick. Atchi, Obi's favourite son, was soon on board, and on being told that we were anxious to leave the river as soon as possible, immediately went on shore, and sent a large canoe-load of wood on board the same evening by moonlight, promising to complete us in the morning. Within the last day or two there has been some murmuring, and manifestations of being troublesome, among our black crew. I told John Duncan, the master-at-arms, who reported their proceedings to me, to keep a good look-out, and say nothing.

Wednesday, October 13*th.*—At two in the morning, Mr. Kingdon, who had been taken on board at the Confluence in a very low state, expired. At six, Mr. Schön and I proceeded to the Island of Afgub, to bury our deceased shipmate; but the waters had risen so high, and the land was so overflooded and swampy, that we could not effect a landing there*.

* When we were at Abòh on the 26th August the river was still rising. So it was at Iddah and the Confluence. At Egga it began to fall on the 25th September, and, as has already been noticed, it had

After an hour's hard pulling, we reached a small creek on the left bank, where a native offered to show us where we might easily land. Following him up the creek, the boat grounded, when the body was put into a canoe in which we proceeded a considerable distance; and at length succeeded in digging a grave, near a small village, in which were deposited the remains of poor Kingdon. He lies near to an enormous "bombax" tree, at the end of the village furthest from the creek. The natives came around us, and watched, seemingly with great interest, every movement—from the breaking of the ground, until the conclusion of the burial-service. I happened to have a few brass rings in my pocket, which I distributed among the women, who seemed mightily pleased and somewhat astonished at my liberality. On returning on board from our melancholy duty, we found King Obi sitting in the gun-room at breakfast, habited in his scarlet jacket, and loose flowing trowsers of the same colour. He relished the fowl, rice, and coffee exceedingly; and handled his knife and fork as if he had been accustomed to them all his life.

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fallen on the 5th October not less than three feet. At the Bird Rock, Iddah, and much lower down, the marks and *fluviatile debris* on the banks indicated a fall, although to what extent was not ascertained. But Mr. Schön, who landed at Abòh on the 12th October, found the river sufficiently high to enable him to reach the entrance of Obi's palace in the boat, which in August involved a quarter of an hour's dirty walk. He considered that the river had risen at least three feet, owing to the heavy rains which fall here in October.

There were about a hundred canoes alongside, and the noise of the people chatting and hallooing was incessant. Obi and his people had brought off abundance of wood for us, besides goats, fowls, yams, and plantains, in return for which he had a present of some scarlet cloth and cowries. Obi's prompt assistance to us on this occasion was of the highest importance. He is decidedly a fine character, and assuredly did not discredit the high opinion we had already formed of him*.

It would not have been prudent or just to have made Obi, or any other savage with such means as he had at hand, acquainted with the full extent of our distress, so he was not invited to go over any part of the ship except the captain's cabin and the gun-room; nor were any but his son and a few of his personal attendants allowed to accompany him on board. He gave expression to great sympathy and pity, when he saw Captain Trotter, Commander B. Allen, and the other officers sick in the cabin.

Simon Jonas, our Abòh interpreter, who, at the

* I speak thus of Obi, with a full knowledge of his detention of the Landers, until they were ransomed by King Boy of Brasstown; an act, on the part of Obi, which cannot be too highly deprecated. But some allowance is due to a savage like Obi, who, on the unprecedented and extraordinary occasion of having two white men in his power, took advantage of circumstances, and exacted from them a much higher amount of tribute than was paid by ordinary strangers in passing through his territory.

earnest request of Obi, had been for some time left at Abòh, (having been sent from the Confluence in the Soudan,) returned to the 'Albert' this morning, and gave a very favourable account of his reception by Obi and his people during his stay at Abòh. They all were anxious to hear him speak of the Christian religion, and of everything white men knew.

It was a rule with Dr. Stanger and myself, to arrange on the previous evening, after considering what was to be done, the hour of starting on the morrow. Ten o'clock was the time fixed for our departure from Abòh; and so rigorously was the custom observed, that the vessel was under weigh just as the bell struck the hour; when it was discovered that Obi's chief judge, who had been conversing with some of the black crew in the fore part of the vessel, was still on board.

His Lordship evidently apprehended we were about to make an unceremonious abduction of his person down the river; for without waiting to have the engines stopped for a minute, he made a rather undignified leap overboard, his countenance exhibiting an expression of unmingled terror. For a while he was seen floating astern, with his ample white robe inflated, balloon like, round his body; but was soon picked up by one of Obi's canoes.

At twelve o'clock we were at the Warree branch on the right bank, and shortly afterwards at Truro Island.

At a number of the villages we passed during the day, the confidence and friendly disposition of the natives were shown, by their having canoe-loads of wood, ready to be launched and brought off to us. Many large canoes with palm oil were seen, belonging chiefly to King Peppel of Bonny.

At three P.M., when near Stirling Island, a steamer, which we at once perceived did not belong to the Expedition, was seen coming up the river at full speed; we were soon close to her; and in a very short time Captain Beecroft came alongside from the 'Ethiope,' (Mr. Jamieson's vessel,) for such she was. He at once offered any assistance in his power; and it was finally arranged that he was to send his engineer on board the 'Albert' next morning; and that the 'Ethiope' was to return with us, taking the lead, as Captain Beecroft had a perfect knowledge of the river. Both vessels anchored for the night. Captain Trotter much better; Commander B. Allen, Lieutenant Stenhouse, and Mr. Webb very low, and one of the marines fast sinking.

Thursday, October 14*th.*—Both vessels weighed at six in the morning. The weather was beautiful throughout the day, and our progress downwards was rapid. In the afternoon, the re-appearance of the mangrove on both banks above Sunday Island, proclaimed that we were once more within the influence of the tide. At six in the evening we both anchored

off Barracoon Point at the mouth of the Nun. The sight of the open sea acted like a charm upon every one*.

Friday, October 15th.—Sent a party of Krumen on shore to cut wood. The rigging was set up, and other preparations made, for sea. The Krumen brought on board five galley loads, and Captain Beecroft supplied one canoe load of wood; in all, sufficient for nine days' consumption. The 'Selina,' an English merchant-schooner, now here, has lost nearly all hands in this and some of the other rivers. Letters were put on board of her, for Lieutenant Strange, in case he should arrive here in the 'Soudan' after our departure; and at Captain Trotter's request I wrote a letter of thanks to the Commander of the 'Dolphin' (Lieutenant Littlehales), for his promptitude in taking the sick of the squadron sent down the river on to Ascension, which was also put on board the 'Selina.'

Saturday, October 16th.—At five in the morning Captain Beecroft came on board, and as the steam was up, we weighed immediately. When just within the bar, the 'Soudan' was seen outside. The bar was crossed in comparative quiet; and after an interchange of anxious inquiries with the 'Soudan,' the

* The mangroves (Rhizophora) and the other vegetables, with which they live constantly in society, perish as the ground dries, and they are no longer bathed with salt water.—(*Humboldt's Personal Narrative*, vol. ii. p. 375.)

three vessels steamed on towards Fernando Po. George Cole, a marine, who had been attacked with fever at Egga, died in the forenoon. Captain Trotter was much better; but Commander Allen, Lieutenant Stenhouse, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Willie, were very low. Weather very fine, and the difference of atmospherical temperature since leaving the river, was of most sensible benefit to all, more especially to the sick. For the last few days I have had a burning sensation in the limbs, with headache and occasional giddiness. I had the same feelings at the Confluence; but intense mental occupation gave me no time to heed them.

Sunday, October 17th.—Was on deck during the greater part of the night with Captain Beecroft, where I slept soundly upon a chair. In the forenoon, the dark outline of the mountain of Fernando Po was seen through the haze which hung over the land. At twelve, we were close in with the shore; at three P.M., opened the anchorage of Clarence Cove, where we came-to a little past four.

Thus terminated the perilous descent of the Niger, which from the extraordinary combination of circumstances attending it, can never be forgotten by those who lived to see it concluded.

Every hour, from the time we left Egga, until our arrival at Fernando Po, seemed to give birth to events calculated to excite the warmest sympathies of our nature, and to occupy our minds with the most intense anxiety, in calling upon us for resources that

were alien to our former habits, as well as for those with which we were familiar. No survivor in the 'Albert' can but feel a devout thankfulness, that Dr. Stanger was enabled to continue at his unusual and onerous duties in the engine-room; and that I was permitted health to remain on deck, and with the admirable chart of the Niger by Captain W. Allen, and with the assistance of Brown the negro clerk, to conduct the vessel in safety, until both of us were relieved by falling in with assistance when we least expected it.

To Captain Beecroft, I wish I could pay a tribute worthy of his prompt and noble conduct. Captain William Allen, anxious about the fate of the 'Albert,' and from his previous fearful experience of the Niger, dreading the worst, was desirous that Beecroft, then at Fernando Po in the 'Ethiope,' should ascend the Niger, and render what assistance we might stand in need of. The wish was no sooner made known, than he at once weighed for the river. The timely aid he rendered us, can be fully appreciated only by those who were in the position to feel the full force of its value."

[It may be necessary to inform the reader of the foregoing extracts from my Journal, that although they were written at a time more fertile in events, and when objects of daily interest were perhaps more numerous than during any other period of the Expedition, it was not possible for me, in the peculiar and

distressing situation in which I was soon placed, to make copious notes of incidents as they occurred, or to bestow the attention to many particulars brought to my notice, that their importance deserved.

These observations are made, with the view of, in some degree, accounting for the scantiness of the harvest from so rich a field.]

J. O. McW.

CHAPTER V.

The 'Albert's' sick landed at Fernando Po—Death of Mr. Willie—Condition of the sick—Captain Trotter's sufferings—Doctor McWilliam attacked with river fever—Death of Commander Bird Allen—Tribute to his memory—Kru sympathy—An interesting scene—Death of Lieutenant Stenhouse—Further mortality—Departure of Mr. Carr for the Model Farm—Captain Trotter leaves for England—The smokes—Agreeable effects of tornadoes—Death of Doctor Vogel—His unwearied exertions and zeal in the cause of science—Kind attentions received by the Expedition from Mr. White and the other residents at Clarence—The 'Albert' leaves Clarence Cove for Ascension—Passage—A short account of the Niger fever—Modes of treatment—Quinine strongly recommended—Probable causes of the fever—Influence of diet.

On the arrival of H.M.S.V. 'Albert' at Clarence Cove, Fernando Po, Dr. McWilliam lost no time in having the sick removed on shore, the large store-rooms above the houses of the West African Company having been at once adapted for the reception of the seamen and marines, by Mr. White, the agent, who, with Mr. Hensman, the medical resident, most considerately gave up their own private dwellings for the use of the sick officers. Captain Trotter, still in a state of extreme debility, Commander Bird Allen and

Lieutenant Stenhouse evidently both far beyond all hope of recovery, were taken to the so-called Government House. Several of the junior officers were also in great danger, especially Messrs. W. H. Webb, mate, and W. Wilmett, clerk. Mr. Willie, mate, who had for some days been in a most critical state, gradually sunk, in spite of all the means used, and expired the evening of his landing. He was deeply regretted, being not only of an amiable frank disposition, but an excellent officer. Poor fellow! the fever seized him when all the other executives were prostrate, and feeling that much depended on his exertions, he continued at his duty in spite of the remonstrances of his medical friends, and it was only when both strength and reason forsook him that he yielded. He never complained of pain, always saying he felt quite well; while the symptoms—continued heat and dryness of the skin, anxious manner, and nervous tremors—shewed too clearly the course the malady was taking. His remains were buried near those of kindred spirits.

Immediately on the arrival of the 'Soudan,' Mr. Thomson, acting-surgeon of that vessel, was sent on shore, to assist Dr. McWilliam, who was beginning to feel the effects of his late extraordinary exertions; and situated as the sick now were, in three different houses, at some distance from each other, it required no ordinary amount of strength to visit them as frequently as their cases demanded. The climate, too, was then extremely variable; the sun at one moment bursting out with a

truly African force, then as quickly succeeded by heavy showers, while at night the latter, and the noxious land-breeze offered but an indifferent exchange for the noon-day heat.

Mr. Woodhouse, acting assistant-surgeon of the 'Albert,' was added to the list of fever cases. He had lately been serving for a few days in the 'Soudan.'

22*nd*.—This evening Robert Milward, purser's steward, expired after a rather protracted illness. Some of the sick were beginning to improve, but many were still in extreme danger, particularly Commander B. Allen and Lieutenant Stenhouse; both of these were, however, in a most satisfactory state of mind, and whenever the absence of delirium permitted, the Rev. J. Schön read to them, and afforded spiritual consolation. Dr. Prince and Mr. Clarke, Baptist Missionaries, who had formerly known Captain B. Allen in the West Indies, were also unremitting in their attentions.

Captain Trotter continued to be much debilitated, worn to a shadow by his late attack, and the anxiety of all the past distressing circumstances preying on his mind. To add to his danger, his case was complicated with a painful inflammatory complaint, which required active cupping; but throughout his trying illness he never lost sight of those intrusted to his care; his own sufferings seemed to be altogether forgotten in his anxiety for the welfare of the Expedition, and in the hope of yet being able to carry out the great designs of its originators.

23*rd.*—All those who were not in a hopeless state on their arrival seemed to have benefited by the change; several of the others were however, hovering between life and death. Dr. McWilliam, who had so unceasingly exerted himself for the welfare of others, was to-day obliged to relinquish his duties. It seemed as if the exciting circumstances under which he had been placed, by keeping both mind and body so much engaged, had tended to ward off for a time the threatened fever. He had evidently been suffering from the premonitory symptoms of the attack for several days, but he was averse to lay up as long as he could be of any assistance. The medical duties now devolved on Mr. Thomson.

25*th.*—This morning Commander Bird Allen departed this life, to the deep, deep regret of all who knew him; and those only could justly appreciate the many admirable qualities blended in his character. As an officer,—brave, talented, and enterprising,—he united the fullest decision of purpose with the utmost gentleness of disposition, and with all his zeal for the public service he never overlooked the happiness of those who were under his command. In all his sufferings not a murmur or expression of complaint escaped his lips, and his conversation, during rational moments, turned more on the state of others than himself. Strong in the faith of those promises which had been his guide in the time of health, he breathed forth his gentle spirit, affording another memorable instance

that a man may be a brave, efficient officer and a sincere Christian.

We must not forget to mention that prior to entering the river Nun, Commander B. Allen had expressed to one of his officers his presentiment that he was never to come out of it alive: he did so however, but only to mingle his dust with others who, like himself, had staked all in their desire to serve "the land of the negro." Yet, while there survives one of the number concerned with him in that perilous enterprise, his memory will be revered and beloved.

His remains were deposited in the quiet secluded spot near Lander's, Mr. Schön performing the burial service. In consequence of the general sickness only two or three white persons were enabled to pay the last sad tribute of respect; but his name as "a friend of Africa" had become known to the black residents of the settlement, and numbers of them followed the little procession, evidently sensible of their loss.

27*th.*—Lieutenant Stenhouse and Mr. Wilmett continued in a most critical state, Dr. McWilliam was in a high state of fever, and Captain Trotter decidedly worse, the loss of Commander Bird Allen having given him a severe shock. Messrs. Webb and Fairholme were very slowly recovering strength, and some of the others, beginning to clamour for increased diet,—a sign of convalescence. To-day the Krumen, who had hitherto been employed on board the vessels, were allowed to come on shore, and one of

their first acts was to visit the sick officers and men at the different houses. They walked quietly into the several apartments, kneeling down near those they were acquainted with, gently pressing the sufferer's hand, and whispering, in their broken English, a word of comfort, or the sympathy so plainly written on the countenance. It was, indeed, a most interesting sight to witness such a display of considerate feeling on the part of these untutored children of nature, whose almost naked, stalwart, black figures were in strong contrast to the gentleness of manner, and commiseration evinced on that occasion. In all the difficulties of the Expedition how nobly these fine fellows behaved; even amid the absence of discipline unavoidable by the sickness of all their superiors, not one case of insubordination or neglect of duty occurred among them; and truly their conduct showed how sincere were their expressions, "Kru-boy like white man too much," "where white man go, Kru-boy must go, only he too much sorry, see good white friend die."

28*th*.—Lieutenant David Hope Stenhouse breathed his last early this morning, after an illness of upwards of a month, throughout which he manifested the same excellent disposition that had distinguished him in health, and caused him to be appreciated among all his naval friends. In his death, he did but exchange bright earthly prospects, for the imperishable honours of another world. His remains were interred near those of Commander Bird Allen: the fever in both

cases having run almost an identieal eourse: low and typhoid in its charaeter, with searee any remission, and resisting every method of relief. The death of Lieutenant Stenhouse was another sad blow to Captain Trotter, whose health was still in a most precarious state.

30*th.*—Assistant-Surgeon Woodhouse, in whom the fever presented from the first, the insidious symptoms of a dangerous state, was fast drawing to the conclusion of his earthly career. This morning, being evidently dying, he reeeived the solemn ritual of the saerament, administered by the Rev. J. Schön, and a few hours afterwards the fatal disease terminated his existence; he too, no doubt, benefited by the great change, and rose above all earthly promotions. The sun, whose rising beams at morning flickered in the siek man's chamber, threw his evening rays over the newly-made grave of another far beyond the reaeh of care. He was buried the same day before sunset. It may be interesting to his numerous friends to know, that those amiable and generous qualities which had endeared him to them prior to entering the serviee, never deserted him.

November 2*nd.*—Except Captain Trotter, Doetor MeWilliam, and Mr. Wilmett, who were still dangerously ill, the sick generally were convaleseing slowly, under more generous diet, and a moderate quantity of light, bitter ale; the difficulty was, however, to procure sufficient quantity of fowls or fresh meat for

them: and even then, the preparation of food for so many in a way suited to the fastidious taste of sick people, was no easy matter,—there being no white man capable of the occupation,—so that the *cuisine* became an unavoidable addition to the medical duties; fortunately Mr. Mouat, clerk, had been under a professional gentleman for some years, knew a good deal about dispensing and the use of medicines, and being now convalescent, rendered the greatest assistance to Mr. Thomson. Morgan Kinson, one of the three belonging to the 'Albert' who had hitherto escaped, was added to the long list of the sick.

On the *5th November*, H.M. steam-vessel 'Pluto,' arrived at Fernando Po, bringing back Lieutenant Fishbourne, and Mr. Bowden, secretary, both of whom had improved so much by their trip at sea in the 'Wilberforce,' as to be enabled to return. The former was now appointed acting-commander of 'Soudan,' by Captain Trotter, in the vacancy occasioned by the death of Commander Bird Allen. Mr. Carr, agent and superintendent of the model farm, having recovered his health, requested Captain Trotter to allow him again to proceed up the river, to resume his duties, which was very unwillingly granted on account of the dangers attendant on the route suggested. Mr. Wilmett, clerk, was buried to-day, near his former companions, having been fairly worn out, poor fellow, by an incessant watchfulness and delirium, which had, for the last fortnight particularly, kept him without

repose; it had latterly become so distressing to all the other sick officers, that it was necessary to remove him to a separate house.

7*th*.—H.M. steam-vessel 'Pluto,' sailed last night for the mouth of the Brass River, with Mr. Carr, who, in spite of all the advice of Captain Trotter and Mr. Beecroft to the contrary, still persisted in his resolution of returning to the model farm, and, moreover, trusting himself in the native canoes, with different packages of clothing, &c.; the sequel was not to be wondered at*. The remains of Morgan Kinson, who expired last night, were this morning committed to the grave. His disease was more symptomatic of inflamed stomach than fever, which an examination proved. On inquiry, we learned that for some time previously to the attack, he had been in the habit of using a great quantity of hot peppers in his rations of coffee and rum; that the very morning of his first complaining, he had taken a large spoonful of Guinea pepper; and

* Mr. Carr and his servant were taken into the Brass River by one of the 'Pluto's' boats, where he engaged a canoe, in which he placed all his luggage. Mr. Browne, a native of Cape Coast, who had accompanied him thus far, knowing a little of the language, and suspecting the natives had evil intentions towards Mr. Carr, apprised him of these suspicions, and earnestly implored him to return on board the 'Pluto.' Even after the canoe had started, both Mr. Duffield, one of the 'Pluto's' officers, and Browne, advised him strongly not to trust himself in such hands. He persisted, however, and from that time nothing has been seen of him; but there is every reason to believe he was robbed and murdered soon after commencing his voyage.

it is very probable that the extreme irritability of stomach which resisted all active means, had brought his illness to a termination, before it was possible for the fever to develope itself perfectly.

12*th*.—The sick were for the most part going on satisfactorily. Doctor McWilliam was very much improved, but still confined to bed. On the other hand, Captain Trotter, whose anxiety for the future operations of the Expedition continually excited him to physical and mental exertion, quite beyond his enfeebled state, was clearly losing ground, and it was evident that unless speedily removed from all responsibility, there would be no hope of his recovery. Under these circumstances, Mr. Thomson wrote, urging on him in the strongest manner the absolute necessity of disconnecting himself for the present from the causes which were endangering his life, and to return to England immediately. In this view Doctors McWilliam and Stanger also coincided; and it was at last, with great reluctance, acquiesced in by Captain Trotter.

21*st*.—Most of the sick were now in a fair way of recovery; but such miserable objects! they looked like men risen from the grave, as they crawled about morning and evening, to take advantage of the cool refreshing breezes.

The worst cases were now those of Mr. W. Merriman, gunner; William MacClaughlin, sailmaker, and

John Duncan, master-at-arms*. This enterprising person was for some weeks in a very critical state; and when the fever declined, he was attacked with sloughing ulcer of the foot, which long kept him on the verge of eternity. John M'Clintock, stoker, was committed to the grave to-day, having expired very suddenly yesterday on board the 'Albert.' The unfortunate man had quite recovered from the fever, and had embarked again; while scuffling with a number of others on the forecastle of the ship, he fell down dead.

22*nd*.—The 'Warree' schooner, the property of R. Jamieson, Esq., of Liverpool, touched in at Clarence to take Captain Trotter's luggage on board, it having been arranged that he was to proceed to England in her. The Master had unfortunately been drowned, a few days previously, by the upsetting of a boat in the breakers, which suddenly set in on a reef of rocks near Shark River, where he was procuring oysters. Mr. Saunders, second master of the 'Albert', was therefore appointed to command her; and, on the following morning, having embarked the sick, except a few who were too weak to be removed, the 'Albert' got up steam, and left Clarence, taking the 'Warree' in tow. Doctor Stanger and the Reverend J. Schön, were also passengers with Captain Trotter, whose

* Since so well known by his travels in Dahomey.

departure was deeply regretted, and accompanied with the sincere wishes of all parties, for his restoration to health, and future welfare.

Nor was it with any ordinary feelings that the two former gentlemen said adieu to their numerous friends, who could not readily forget that Stanger, besides his professional aid so cheerfully rendered, had also generously and unremittingly worked at the engine, on which exertions, together with those of Dr. McWilliam, probably so many lives depended, while Mr. Shön in his unwearing ministerings to the spiritual comforts of the sick, had given them cause for grateful remembrance.

Mr. Merriman, gunner, and W. MacClaughlin, sail-maker, both of whom were in a most emaciated state, and getting worse under the influence of the climate, had also been removed on board the 'Warree,' to afford them the only chance of recovery—change of air*.

24*th*.—The peculiar condition of the atmosphere, styled at Fernando Po the "Smokes," commenced early this morning, in the form of a dense vapour, which floated sluggishly over the sea, enveloping portions of the land, and quite obscuring the opposite coasts; the wind was unusually light, westerly and south-westerly, with an average temperature of 84° Fahrenheit's thermometer; this, which corresponds to the health-reviving harmattan of the other parts of the

* The latter died on the passage.

west coast, only resembles it in one point—the extreme dryness of the air. It is the most unhealthy season of the year at Clarence, and no one escaped its effects. Messrs. White, Hensman, and Lindsleger, old and well-seasoned residents on the island, were laid up with active fever; Mr. Roscher the mineralogist, and Dr. Vogel the indefatigable botanist, who had remained behind, determined to brave all dangers in prosecuting their respective departments of science, were also sufferers, the latter from a severe attack of dysentery in its worst form: John Huxley, the sick attendant, commenced with fever; and even Mr. Thomson, left in charge of the sick, whose constitution had been proof against the climate of the river, his service in the fever-impregnated 'Soudan', and a continued residence of two months on shore, did not escape without a febrile attack of an intermittent character.

Nothing could be more debilitating than the effect of these "smokes" on European constitutions; and the feeling of unconquerable anxiety and nervousness was very distressing.

December 2nd.—Last night the incessant flashing of vivid lightning portended the coming tornado, which early this morning broke over the island with terrific force, threatening to tear down the crazy wooden buildings, which rattled in anything but an agreeable manner, especially Mr. Hensman's, situated as it was, rather too close to the high cliffs: with the

exception of the window-shutters, however, which retreated inwards before the violence of the wind, no injury was done; and all the sick, save poor Vogel, were benefited by its purifying influence on the air, which to-day became cooler, and less oppressive. Those only who have suffered for days and weeks under the overpowering influence of the West African climate at the periodical changes from wet to dry season, can appreciate the feeling conveyed by the premonitory signs of the "war of elements," when, after perhaps a series of sleepless nights, he notices in the evening sky the arched cloud, illumined at intervals by the fitful glance of the electric fluid, and hears the distant thunder draw nearer and still nearer; what in temperate climes is indeed a subject of dread, only raises in his heart a mingled sentiment of happiness and thankfulness. He says "Thank God there is a tornado coming," makes all secure, jumps into bed, and, favoured by the diminished temperature of the turbulent atmosphere, sleeps through all the chaotic strife of rain, wind, thunder, lightning, which rages round him; he rises calm and refreshed, with a buoyant, elastic feeling, which puts him on his way rejoicing in the goodness and wisdom of Him who can cause even the terrific storm to be productive of blessing to the sojourner in that "dry and weary land."

On the evening of the 3rd, the 'Albert' returned to Fernando, having accompanied the 'Warree' as far

as the island of Rollas. Most of the sick were benefited by this little change to the sea air, having an advantage over those who had been steeped of late in the pestiferous "smokes" at Clarence.

14*th.*—Every preparation was being made prior to leaving the island; getting stores on board the 'Albert,' dismantling the 'Soudan,' and working up patent fuel out of the small coal, there being scarcely any fuel left.

16*th.*—This morning, Doctor Theodore Vogel—whose constitution,—which never rallied from the attack of river fever, rapidly broke down under the continuance of the uncontrollable dysentery—breathed his last, adding another to the long list of those who have given themselves to the cause of Africa and the inquiry of science. Of Dr. Vogel's acquirements as a botanist, it is unnecessary to speak; his reputation was European, and had he been spared to complete the task he had undertaken, and was so ably fulfilling under numerous difficulties, no doubt he had left but little undone for future investigators of Africa in that branch of natural history. It may indeed be said he sacrificed himself on the altar of science, inasmuch as he had preferred remaining at Fernando Po, to continue his labours, when in a most wretched state of health, rather than lose that opportunity, by proceeding on to Ascension in the 'Wilberforce,' where the change of air might have prolonged his days. On examination, the lungs were found to have all the

characters of consumption in an advancing stage, and had he even recovered from the dysentery, he would not have been long spared to his numerous admiring friends. The remains of this eminent botanist were interred at night near those of other fellow-sufferers in the Expedition; and as the feeble glimmering of the stars did not suffice, it was necessary to use torches, which threw a lurid blaze over the solemn scene. His resting-place was at least characteristic of the occupant, for there nature had asserted the mastery, and surrounded the spot with a dense, almost impenetrable, mass of dark green underwood, above which the guava, the graceful palm and broad leaved banana, struggled to display their forms.

On the evening of the 18th December, the sick being all now on board, and the preparations necessary for the voyage completed, the 'Albert' got up steam and left Clarence. In passing along the coast, here and there, a collection of moving lights, pointed to the different little sandy nooks, where the native Edeeyahs were busy in pursuit of the land-crabs. These indications of life soon disappeared, and ere long, even the broad outline of the island itself, was lost in the dark shades of night.

Few on board felt any regret at having left a place connected with so many sad recollections, but it may be presumed that gratitude and thankfulness were feelings common to all, at having escaped, even though

with broken constitutions, and enfeebled energies; and it is to be hoped that many poured out their hearts to their Almighty deliverer, in the words of Hezekiah—"The living, the living he shall praise Thee, as I do this day." It would be ungrateful not to record the kindness and attention of several persons connected with the West African Company at Fernando Po: Mr. White, the agent, had considerately thrown open his own residence to the reception of the sick, and provided for the comforts of those who were in attendance; Mr. Hensman, the medical officer, had also laid the officers of the Expedition under an obligation, by giving up his house to their use, and thus putting himself to great discomfort and inconvenience. Mr. Lindsleger, the merry, good-natured clerk, too, had cheerfully rendered his assistance, and had been of continual service in procuring the comforts necessary for the sick; nor must the kind sympathy and aid of many of the "dark daughters" of the place be forgotten: The recollection of acts of kindness under such circumstances can never be obliterated, while the recipients remember aught of the scene of their sufferings.

On the 20th December, the 'Albert' reached West Bay, in the delightfully picturesque Island of Princes, whence, having procured fuel, and some stock for the convalescents, she steamed round to Church Bay. Here Madame Ferreira entertained, in her usual hos-

Church Bay, Prince of Wales Island.

pitable style, the officers who had an opportunity of visiting the shore.

Touching in at St. Anna de Chaves, the capital of St. Thomas' Island, on the 24th, thence skirting along the coast,—which for diversity and luxuriance of landscape can hardly be surpassed,—the 'Albert' anchored near the Island of Rollas. H.M.S. 'Pluto' was lying there in a sickly condition, having a number of her crew laid up with fever. Poor Duffield, the second master, who had accompanied Mr. Carr to the inside of the Brass river, had already fallen a victim, and some of the others were in a critical state. Three or four of the sick were sent on board the 'Albert,' for passage to Ascension, one of whom, Tom Davis, a Kruman, died soon after of consumption. After wooding and watering, the 'Albert' proceeded to Annobone, thence on to Ascension, where she arrived on the 28th January. During the passage the sick improved rapidly, particularly after having passed to the southward of the Equator, when the alteration became almost daily apparent. Even Duncan, who had suffered so terribly from mortification of the foot,—succeeding his attack of fever,—was beginning to rally from his protracted illness; and the refreshing sea breezes at Ascension together with the quiet of an hospital gradually restored him, and many others, who had been reduced to the verge of the grave.

The fatal character of the fever which had thus frustrated the objects of the Expedition, and dis-

appointed the bright hopes of its philanthropical originators, will no doubt have invested it with an interest—even to the general reader,—which medical subjects seldom possess; we have therefore ventured to collate an outline of it from the official report transmitted October 8th, 1841, by Mr. Thomson to Sir W. Burnett, Medical Director-General of H.M. Navy.

In attempting a general description of the disease as it manifested itself on board H.M.S.V. 'Soudan,' some difficulty occurred from the dissimilarity of the symptoms not only at the commencement but during the progress of most of the cases. In nearly all, however, premonitory symptoms were found on inquiry to have existed at least one day prior to the attack, either in form of languor, general debility, or sensation of chilliness, but from the anxiety of the patients to impute those feelings to any other cause than that of fever, medical assistance was avoided until the following day, when the symptoms were less equivocal. At first the head was not so severely affected as in most forms of remittent fever, a sense of fulness and constriction nevertheless was always complained of; the eyes were suffused, the conjunctiva having a yellow tinge; general pains, especially of the lower extremities and loins, this last mostly aggravated on the third day. In all cases the heat and dryness of skin were very great. Bowels irregular. The tongue covered with a thin white clammy fur, changing into a yellowish or brownish coating, with edges of deep

red colour, and in all *tremulous*, on protrusion. The pulse generally averaged 96 at commencement, but it varied a good deal in different cases, both as to number and momentum, the change being from 96 to as much as 120 during the severity of the accession. About the third day, the irritability of stomach came on; the fluid ejected being either yellowish, or green and bilious. Tenderness over the stomach was not invariably present, and in no case did it amount even on pressure to any indication of acute inflammation. The general impression produced on the system at the outset merits the most attention, in some there being great nervous depression with rapid prostration of strength and despondency of mind; or high excitement with full pulse, again succeeded by exhaustion; while in others, the disease advanced slowly and insidiously without developement of any urgent symptoms until about the sixth day. These latter were certainly most intractable. On questioning such patients, they would reply in a languid sort of tone, that there was nothing whatever the matter with them; that they were quite well; and wondered why they were obliged to take medicines, or be placed under any restriction. In scarcely any two cases treated on board 'Soudan,' was the malady exactly similar; in all, however, the remission was somewhat longer and more distinct on the alternate days, the accessions becoming stronger and more aggravated until the seventh or eight day, when the symptoms became less severe, with favourable

remissions, or advanced to a fatal termination. In the height of the fever, the exhalation from the skin had a peculiar odour, not unlike the disagreeable mustiness of dirty wet clothes which have been kept in a confined place. The vessels were absolutely saturated with it at last, and it was so powerful on board 'Soudan,' that the officers of the 'Pluto' employed on a survey of her stores, detected at once the presence of it, and could scarcely believe that it proceeded from the fever. In the fatal cases and those of greatest intensity, this effluvium was most appreciable.

The state of the atmosphere was found to modify the stage of the disease very much; a close, sultry condition without breeze augmented the fever greatly, causing restlessness, and converting what would have been the day of clearest remission into a day of continued violent febrile action. In this way the 12th and 20th of September, being of such a nature, had a most pernicious effect on the cases.

In conducting the treatment of this insidious disease, the principal objects kept in view were as follows:—To establish, if possible, a more healthy state of the secretions, in the use of remedies, anticipating as it were, the accessions of fever at night, and endeavouring, especially during the remissions, to induce such a change in the system as might tend to lessen the duration of the malady.

After a brisk purgative of the chloride of mercury, followed by neutral salts, the mercurial chloride was

given, in combination with James's powder, five grains of the former with two of the latter, every three hours, until moderate ptyalism was induced; while saline draughts were used as common drink, but chiefly just before and during the evening and night, at which time the thirst and heat of skin were most aggravated; a slight excess of the bicarbonate of potass seemed to lessen the tendency to irritability of the stomach, and if this failed, total abstinence from fluids for a short time, had often the desired effect.

The head symptoms were chiefly treated with cold evaporating lotions, the hair being altogether removed, and in most cases by blisters to the neck or temples. One disadvantage of this species of counter-irritation, either applied as above, or in cases of tenderness over the stomach with continued vomiting, was the certainty of their aggravating the dysury or suppression of a most important secretion, which already obtained as a feature in the disease. Cupping was found to be decidedly more useful. The remedy which may be considered to have the most manifest power in controlling the disease was calomel in moderate doses; but even that required caution in its administration, as it seemed to increase the irritability of the system, unless ptyalism succeeded. We saw no case which ended fatally, where its effects could be established; and in some where it was beginning to act, and suddenly ceased its operations, the fever as certainly progressed without any possibility of checking it. James'

powder was not found to be of the benefit expected from its general character in fever. In large doses, it seemed to make the stomach more irritable, and in small ones, was not so effectual as saline mixtures in promoting perspiration. During the decline of the disease, the hydrochlorate of morphia was a valuable medicine; a good night's repose doing as much towards restoration to health as diet.

As soon as favourable remissions came on and the tongue tolerably clean, the disulphate of quinine was most serviceable; and from subsequent experience, we believe, that if used boldly and in full doses, it may be used most beneficially at a much earlier stage. In the secondary attacks of pure remittent fever, which we witnesed on our subsequent visit to the Bights and Fernando Po, it was given in cases where the tongue was even foul and dry, in doses of six to ten grains once or twice daily, and it acted more like a specific than anything else*.

Judging from the experience of the two expeditions, we find that, irrespective of season, the river fever, from whatever cause, will develope itself about the fifteenth day. Thus the 'Quorra' and 'Alburkah' in 1832, commenced the ascent on the 28th October, and on the 11th November the disease manifested itself; while in the last expedition, the vessels began their

* Dr. Thomson has also found this confirmed by practice in the eastern coast of Africa.

progress upwards on the 20th August, and on the 3rd September, the first case of fever occurred on board H.M.S.V. 'Soudan,' exactly the fifteenth day in both; but when Lieutenant Webb ascended the river in July, 1842, the first sickness evidenced itself on the sixteenth day.

Of the predisposing causes arising out of the condition of the atmosphere, it would be impossible to speak with any certainty, since the most delicate chemical tests have failed to elicit the presence of any of the deleterious gases supposed to exist in those regions. From the date of entering the river, we examined both air and water several times during each day and night with the greatest care, and could not detect sulphuretted hydrogen in either, and only a slight trace of carbonic acid gas in the air. Still there can be no doubt there obtains at some seasons—especially about the conclusion of the rainy and beginning of the dry period—a certain peculiarity of atmosphere,—call it miasm, malaria, or any other name,—which, though inappreciable by chemical agency, operates most powerfully on Europeans. Even on those of the most robust frame, and those who escaped the river fever, the climate gave rise to an indescribable languor and want of nervous energy, under which the strongest constitution must have yielded.

We can speak with greater confidence of the effects of solar heat as acting in three ways; first, in evolving, after the rains, those emanations from the soil, which

are *probably the predisposing causes;* secondly, in its influence in developing the disease on those *directly* exposed to its power, which in nearly all those so situated, was followed almost immediately by an attack of fever; thirdly, in its pernicious effects on those *in whom the malady has commenced;* as was most clearly exemplified on the 12th and 20th of September, when an unclouded sky, enabled the sun's rays to operate with the greatest intensity. In confirmation of these opinions, we quote some interesting remarks from the journal of the pious and gifted Bishop Heber. Speaking of the pestiferous jungles of Tandah and Terai, between Sheshgur and Kulleanpoor, in the East Indies, lat. 28° 30′ N., long. 79° E., he says, that "during the *heaviest rains,* while the water falls in torrents, and *the clouded sky* tends to prevent *evaporation from the ground,* the forest may be passed with tolerable safety. It is in the *extreme heat,* immediately after the *rains* have *ceased* in May, the latter end of August and beginning of September, that it is *most deadly;* that during the sickly season, from the 1st of April to October, even the *animals* desert them; but in the latter month they return." He says further, that "the people dwelling in the neighbourhood of these woods, call the *white mists which emanate from the marshes, 'the essence of owl,'* the native name for the jungle or *malaria* fever*."

* Heber's Journal, vol. i., p. 251.

We have previously called attention to the good effects of quinine in the treatment of fever; we must also speak of it as a prophylactic. It had long been observed by medical men on the west coast of Africa, that persons subject to ague or intermittent fever, were exempt from the more serious remittent form. Mr. Thomson therefore reasoned, that if the use of quinine could control a disease which granted this immunity from the more fatal one, might not the free administration of it in the healthy subject induce such a change in the system as would keep both away? On the return of the Expedition to the Bight of Biafra in 1842, he commenced the experiment in his own person in large doses—six to ten grains daily; and although very much exposed on shore in the woods of Fernando Po, Bimbia, Cameroons, &c., he escaped the remittent altogether; but on the recall of the officers and men to England, he gradually left off the quinine, and on reaching Plymouth, discontinued it entirely, when, strange to say, tertian ague attacked him at regular intervals for some months, and even recurred on the following year at the same period*.

As regards the influence of diet in the prevention of fever, we had the clearest proofs that tolerably good living, with a moderate proportion of wine and Bass's ale, was the most proper course to be adopted. We

* Medical readers are referred to the Lancet; date 28th February, 1846.

found that those who used the *good things* of this life, without abusing them, continued the longest exempt from an attack, and some escaped altogether; while of those who had followed the opposite plan, or total abstinence from wines and fermented liquors, not one had an immunity from the fever, *or recovered,* and their cases were among the earliest fatal. We wish this to be particularly marked, as some persons from mistaken views have recommended, a course quite opposed to these facts.

Above all we must add, the encouragement of *cheerfulness* and *innocent recreations*, with suitable protection from the sun. We have seen the good effects of such a system, and cannot too highly recommend it*.

* As the character of this narrative precludes the possibility of going further into medical details, we refer our readers to the works of Doctors McWilliam and Pritchett.

CHAPTER VI.

Consultation of the Commissioners respecting future operations—Decide on returning to the coast—Dispatches sent to Government by Lieut. Toby—The Rev. Theodore Müller returns to England—Further remarks on Ascension — The Blowhole, or Grampus Cavern—Natural volcanic arch—Turtle—The "Wide-awake" and "Gannet Fairs"—Magnetic term-days—The 'Wilberforce' leaves Ascension for the Bight of Biafra—Discoloration of the sea by conferva—Luminosity of sea; how connected with this appearance—Phosphorescent polypi—Revisit Cape Coast—Change in the plumage of some of the birds—Accra—Mr. Bannerman's hospitality—Comparison between Fantis and Ashantis—A runaway Bornù slave—Swamped in the surf—Fernando Po—Its appearance—Clarence Cove—Edeeyahs, or natives—Their physical characters—No traditionary evidence of their origin—Native towns and villages—Moral and social condition of the inhabitants—Manners and customs—Government—Religious superstitions—Festival at the planting of the yam—Observances on decease of any of the tribe—System of betrothal—Severe punishment for adultery—Mode of fishing—Land crabs—Native method of chanting—Palm-nut gatherers—Description of a hunt with the Edeeyahs—Bota-kimmo, or chanting priest.

THE information brought by the 'Albert' now demanded the gravest consideration, whether the suggestions of Captain Trotter should be acted up to, or whether the more recent reports of the attack on the

settlers at the Model Farm required a modification of them, and more prompt measures. A consultation was therefore held on the 3rd February by Captain Allen and Mr. Cook,—the two remaining Commissioners,—on the steps most advisable to be taken under these circumstances. The latter gentleman strongly urged the necessity of our immediate departure for the coast, in order to ascend the Niger at once, in search of Mr. Carr, and for the relief of the settlers at the Model Farm. He was of "opinion that the river will have reached nearly the lowest in January, and as by the middle of March the quicksands which compose the greater part of its bed will become so drained and consolidated, as to throw the stream into one channel, it will be found deeper and more rapid at that time than after it begins to rise, or before it has reached its lowest."

He "thought it improbable that a river which Park describes at Sego to be 'as broad and deep as the Thames at Westminster,' and which in its course through a country more or less mountainous, of upwards of a thousand miles, must receive many large rivers as tributaries before it is joined by the Chadda, can afterwards dwindle into an insignificant stream, not having a depth of five or six feet."

Captain Allen agreed with Mr. Commissioner Cook that the additional information of this alleged attack on the model farm rendered it expedient to return to the coast with a view to enter the river as soon as

possible, but he did not consider it safe to do so at the early period proposed by that gentleman; inasmuch as from his own experience of the river, the rise does not commence until the latter end of June; and he would not be justified—being the only person responsible for the safety of H.M. Vessels under his command,—in making the attempt before there was a certainty of the rising river having a channel sufficiently deep for our draft of water, or of floating the vessels off, should they unfortunately get aground.

At the same time he was of opinion that by entering the river at the end of July, we should be only twenty days in advance of last year's attempt, when we were so much straitened for time, and even should we be able to reach Rabbah, we should still remain in ignorance of the state of the river during the shallowest season, and also of the length of time it would be available for navigation. It was eventually determined that we should hasten our departure; Captain Allen reserving to himself—as naval commander of the Expedition,—the right of deciding when the ascent of the river could be undertaken with safety to Her Majesty's vessels. A further reason for not waiting at Ascension,—according to Captain Trotter's suggestion till the 1st of June—was, that it would be impossible to make the voyage to Fernando Po, and to the mouth of the river—with all the necessary preparations,—so as to be able to enter it at the beginning of

July, especially as the 'Albert's' crew not being in a state of health to accompany us, it would be necessary to refit the 'Soudan,' which vessel was lying at Fernando Po. Fortunately in the 'Wilberforce' there were sufficient—with the assistance of some officers * who volunteered for a renewal of the service to man both vessels. Captain Allen therefore resolved on hastening the departure for the coast of Africa, to be there guided by circumstances.

February 12*th.*—Dispatches were sent to the Colonial Office and to the Admiralty, announcing these determinations. They were entrusted to Lieutenant Toby, of H.M.S. 'Wilberforce,' whose constitution had been so shaken by the fever of the Niger, that it was necessary for him to be invalided.

The Reverend Theodore Müller also having expressed his conviction that his health would not allow him again to risk the climate of the Niger, applied for permission to go to England. He left us with three hearty cheers from the ship's company, to whom as well as to the officers, he had endeared himself by the amiability of his character, his truly christian demeanour, and the zealous but unaffected piety with which he discharged the duties of his holy calling.

Before leaving Ascension, some of the officers made

* Lieutenant Ellis, who was appointed by Captain Allen to command the 'Soudan,' Lieutenant Webb, and Messrs. Sidney and Fairholme, Mates; and T. R. H. Thomson, Surgeon of 'Soudan.'

excursions to several interesting localities, for although there is so little of verdant freshness wherewith to gladden and relieve the eye, the visitor will find much to admire in the fantastic forms which nature in her convulsive efforts has scattered throughout the island. Of these the Blowhole, or Grampus cavern, is well worthy of a visit. It is situated near Pyramid Point, about two miles from George Town, and as the way lies over the sharp and rugged clinkers, it can only be attained at the expense of a pair of shoes. When the rollers set in, the scene is one of terrific beauty. The swelling wave as it dashes with an awfully deep note into the cavern, compresses the air within its narrowing recesses, but the next instant a reaction takes place, its elasticity overcomes the intruder and sends it bellowing back in magnificent jets of spray.

This cavern has a small aperture through the rock above, by which the imprisoned air tries to escape, and if sand be cast into it at such a time, it is thrown up a considerable height with singular effect. Near this place there is also one of the curious arched forms which the lava must have assumed while in a state of fusion, on coming into contact with the sea. The lower parts in cooling, have formed points of support, as the fiery flood rolled on above, producing a labyrinth of low caverns, through which the sea rushes, foaming and fretting. The subject of the subjoined

sketch is a light and somewhat high arch, resembling the mouldering remains of a Gothic gateway. It is about fifty feet in height and thirty in breadth*.

Fish are abundant, and, from January to June, the green turtle (*Testudo mydas*) visits the islands in great numbers for the purpose of depositing its eggs. During those months no gun is allowed to be fired, as the least noise frightens these amphibia, nor are any persons permitted to turn them except men regularly employed for the purpose. As many as fifteen hundred have been captured in one season, averaging each

* Nearly everything that can be said of this desolate-looking island has been given in the excellent description of it by Captain Brandreth, R.E.

from two to four hundred weight, and the ponds are generally kept well stocked. It is not a little singular, that from the time of their leaving the island in the young state,—about the size of a dollar or rather larger,—they are never found there in any intermediate stage.

Ascension may be called the "home of the sea-birds," many varieties of which frequent it at all times, and in the breeding seasons occupy their respective *fairs*, as they are termed by the marines; thus the little colony of hack-backed sterns (*Sterna fuliginosa*) is called "wide-awake fair;" and the more important one of the gannet goose (*Pelicanus bassanus*), "gannet fair." This interesting locality is about three miles from the town, on the gradual slope of a hill, where the birds have made innumerable terraces, along which they lay their eggs, two in number, merely scooping out sufficient of the sandy scoria to prevent their rolling away.

From the multitudes which collect here, and from their white plumage, the place becomes visible at a distance. Nothing can be to all appearance more stupid than these gannets. They never attempt to escape, but sit on the eggs or young until fairly lifted off.

A regular series of magnetical observations was commenced by Captain W. Allen, assisted by Messrs. Sydney and Forster, with the horizontal force and declination needles of a transportable magnetometer, newly invented by M. Weber of Göttingen, which had just been completed in time for the sailing of the

Expedition*. Much difficulty was experienced in setting the instrument up, but this was happily accomplished in time for the first term day after our arrival fixed by the Royal Society, and all the succeeding ones were kept until the Expedition sailed for England. A great many observations were also made with Fox's and other instruments at different positions on the island.

Thursday, March 10th.—The fresh arrangements consequent on the change of circumstances having been completed, we sailed for Cape Coast Castle at 7·30 P.M. Our comrades in the 'Albert' gave us three parting cheers, as did also a barque lying in the roads.

We were no less than ten days going from Ascension to Cape Coast Castle. The winds were at first S.E., until we had crossed the line, when they became variable, and then south-westerly. On approaching the coast, the clouds—in the form of cumuli, and sometimes assuming the threatening aspect of the "arch"—intimated the vicinity of the tornado regions. The air was charged with moisture, and the advantage of the plan of sending hot and dry air through all the compartments of the vessel, from the engine-room, was very evident.

As we passed near the supposed position of the island of St. Matthew, we felt for it with the lead, but could obtain no soundings.

* Alluded to in chap. ii. vol. i.

The currents were against us the greater part of the distance, and we did not get into the Guinea stream till we were very near the termination of our voyage. We twice passed through large fields or patches of water, having a light brown or fawn-coloured tinge from the presence of fine particles, by our seamen popularly called "Whalesfood," but which in reality were nothing more than diminutive filamentous confervæ, very similar to those observed by Mr. C. Darwin on the eastern coast of South America. As the luminosity of the sea appeared to be much increased when these were present, we were induced to examine the water frequently and carefully, with a very powerful compound microscope. Three phosphorescent mollusca were discovered, but so minute that we were unable to decide the species. The most numerous and apparently the most important, was a tiny, circular, transparent, gelatinous mollusk, congregated in little masses or bundles, without any evident rays or feelers, but which after being shaken gently a few times, separated; each particle continuing to emit its scintillation of light on being moved. The second in frequency was a brownish disc with a circle of minute rays or feelers; the seat of luminosity apparently in the centre. The third was a series of two or more curved gelatinous tubes, partially fitting into each other, and which also separated on motion, each retaining its luminous property.

In all cases where we examined the water, it

seemed to be absolutely necessary to cause a certain action in it before the luminosity was emitted. How far this may depend on a peculiar stimulus or irritability incited in these diminutive animalcules, or on the presence of phosphorescent particles in such a chemical stage as to be easily acted on by friction; it would be difficult to determine. One thing is very clear, that a certain movement is necessary, either by wind, tide, or mechanical means, to induce a luminous condition of the sea. In proof of this, we have only to instance the effect of a ship's progress through phosphorescent water; its more luminous condition during fresh breezes in hot climates; the greater quantity of light emitted by some of the larger acalephæ in expanding and contracting their campanulate bodies.

On the coast of Brazil, where the sea is so frequently luminous, we have often been enabled to determine the state of the tides in calm weather, by observing the effect on the phosphorescent mollusca; their presence being scarcely perceptible when the water was quiescent, but at once evidenced by innumerable scintillations, when the tide was actively ebbing or flowing; or by putting a line overboard, when its downward course has been marked, by the luminosity, and on withdrawing it, we seldom failed to bring up some of the minute gelatinous mollusca.

Between St. Catherine's in Brazil, and the River Plate, we have frequently noticed a brownish disco-

loration of the water, which when placed under a microscope, was found to abound in filaments, resembling the spathæ of minute gramineæ. On such occasions the luminosity was almost invariably great, and we had come to the erroneous conclusion that these were indeed, phosphorescent mollusca; on examination, however, of similar appearances on the west coast of Africa, with a very powerful microscope, we found that these cylindrical bundles of filaments were vegetable, probably some confervæ, and that the light proceeded from the minute gelatinous animalcules already mentioned as the most abundant, and which had become attached in greater or lesser quantity. Subsequent examinations made on the east coast of South America, confirmed this opinion.

Tuesday, March 20th.—In the afternoon we anchored at Cape Coast Castle; found there H.M. frigate 'Madagascar,' commanded by Captain Foote, the senior officer on the west coast of Africa. He kindly offered every assistance.

Lieutenant Fairholme, who had experienced a return of the effects of the fever, was invalided at this place. He was a great loss to the Expedition.

A magnetic term-day was kept in the castle.

The character of the foliage at Cape Coast had altered very much since our last visit, being now richer and more diversified; and the absence of rain enabled us to enjoy a few excursions into the woods: here we observed the tree-ants busily at work, preparing

for the ensuing wet season, by making and mending the tortuous clay-roofed tunnels which led to their various colonies. Our interesting little friends the weaver-birds were also employed, in constructing their curious pensile nests, and some had advanced so far as to have completed and even tenanted them with unfledged broods, over which they watched with noisy twitterings. The male birds had now exchanged their rich yellow and rufous plumage for a dingy black, and looked quite out of character by the side of the richly adorned and solicitous females. These little artisans seem to have sympathy with the human species,—much like our own impudent sparrows,—for they always select such cocoa-nut or palm-trees, to suspend their woven habitations, as are surrounded by the busy haunts of man, where they form large settlements, as many as two hundred of these oddly shaped structures sometimes hanging from a single tree. The crimson nutcracker, too, had undergone a change for the worse, having lost his rich glossy crimson and brown, which was replaced by a sooty black, while the little grey-headed *pyrgita*, in its modest and never attractive plumage, had remained unaltered, like many other unpretending things in this life.

Some of the native women were engaged in the plantations, the dry season not being so profitable for the more favourite occupation of washing for gold. As to the men, they were as listless and lazy as ever, save the fishing portion, who being generally poorer than

other classes, were now making a little harvest afloat. Whenever the surf permitted, a great number of persons were employed in canoes, or on the shore, with circular cast nets about twelve feet in diameter, which they used with much dexterity, and were amply repaid by large hauls of the bright silvery fish.

Governor M'Lean's hospitality seemed but to have received another stimulus in our second visit; the castle was open to us at all times, and nothing was left undone to conduce to our comfort and amusement. We were not a little disappointed to learn from him, that the Ashanti princes, Quantamissah and Ansah, had not fulfilled the expectations reasonably entertained by their kind friends in England.

Mr. Freeman, the enterprising and zealous Wesleyan missionary, was still here, and we rejoiced to hear that his labours had been attended with some prospect of ultimate good. He has endeavoured, with great judgment, to introduce a taste for mechanical employments among the natives, which if it progresses, will not only add to their domestic comforts, but lead to habits of industry, so much wanted at present among the men.

We were enabled to procure a suitable supply of fresh provisions and fruit. Fish too, was abundant, particularly a sort of clupæa which frequents the coast at this season.

Tuesday, March 29th.—We took leave of Captain

M'Lean, the hospitable Governor of Cape Coast Castle, who saluted with eleven guns from the fort. In passing through the roads, most of the vessels lying there cheered us, and an American barque did us the honour to fire a salute, which we could not for various reasons return, much to our regret; but we duly appreciated this mark of national courtesy and sympathy. We arrived the following day at Accra.

Most of the officers lunched with Mr. Bannerman, a coloured merchant of very gentlemanly manners. He took Captain Allen an excursion into the country; it would be wrong to call it *a drive;* since the carriage was drawn by four stout negroes, who trotted away very cheerfully and with ease, at the rate of four or five miles an hour. It was an agreeable mode of locomotion, since neither whip, reins, nor attentive look-out were required, nothing, in fact, to distract the mind from the beauty of the scenery, or the *agrémens* of conversation, which with an intelligent and well-educated old gentleman such as Mr. Bannerman were very considerable.

It seemed at first to be a degradation of "immortal man," to be so employed, but it differs but little from the practice of drawing people about in Bath chairs in our own dear civilized England.

The country is very open,—in a state of nature near the town, except for the amusement of the Krumen, who have some gardens; but at the foot of the hills, about three miles off, it is richly cultivated.

The intervening land seems to be considerably depressed, and there is a large piece of salt water, similar to one near Cape Coast Castle, the resort of numbers of water fowl. It is an excellent sporting country; as many as five hundred deer are sometimes seen together, increasing the park-like appearance of the scenery.

We met several parties of Ashanti traders, starting off for the interior, with various articles of European produce, but principally salt, which they exchange for gold-dust and ivory. Everything is borne on the heads of slaves, a portion of whom of course belong to the commissariat department, and carry provisions for two or three days. These Ashanti traders communicate with all the nations of the interior adjoining their country, but they do not pass the frontier. Others meet them at appointed and regular markets, to interchange their commodities. It requires twelve days to reach a place called Sari, to meet those of Mallowa (query Melli), which some describe as a very large country, others say it is a general name for all the nations beyond Ashanti.

Judging from the specimens we saw of the Ashanti race, we must certainly give them the preference over the Fanti, in point of physical characteristics. They were muscular, lathy, active-looking men, of average stature, with smaller hands and feet; the eyes bright and intelligent; in a few the hair was somewhat long, soft and glossy. We were also enabled

to compare them with some of the pure Accra tribe: these latter were perhaps of better stature and developement, but not better featured. Indeed, with the exception of some few whose lineaments are tolerably pleasing, they both have, in the words of Isert the Danish traveller, "commonly something apish" about the face.

We stopped to put a few questions to a runaway Bornù slave from Kumassi, who was sitting under a shed, merrily occupied in weaving a narrow cotton cloth of brilliant colours. He said, his country was very mountainous, though no names could be recognised but Wangara, of which he spoke with evident delight. It was, however, very difficult to understand him. He remembered a large fresh water lake, and one of salt water; the latter was the larger. He could give no intelligible account of the route by which he had reached Ashanti, nor of that country; but he seemed perfectly happy at having exchanged masters. This is a proof, among many others, of the great difficulty there is in making out an itinerary from the accounts of natives, who have generally been kidnapped and carried off as slaves in their youth; and consequently can hardly be supposed capable of remembering the names even of the towns they have passed through, still less can they give them *seriatim*, with the distance between each; especially as their journeys to the coast are sometimes extended over a period of many years.

Mr. Bannerman's house, during our visit, was beset with people offering various articles for sale; among these were skins of the beautiful Diana monkey, and others with long glossy black hair, probably the Sooty Mangabey, (*Cercocebus fuliginosus*). Provisions were plentiful, and at a reasonable price. We were also fortunate in meeting with some nice trinkets of native manufacture, worked in the purest gold, and displaying considerable taste. After partaking of the good things of our kind host's table, which, though cooked in native fashion, afforded proofs of an advancement in civilization, which would have delighted the philanthrophic gastro-regenerator, M. Soyer, we embarked. At this season the surf sets in very violently during the afternoon; and notwithstanding we were provided with one of Mr. Bannerman's largest canoes, containing forty pull-a-boys, we experienced much difficulty and no little danger before we got through the nearest line of breakers. In our first essay the huge canoe was swamped, on which the crew jumped out, and swam by the side until we reached the shore again, when, after baling out the water, and chanting another dirge to the presiding deities of the element, we made a second and more successful attempt. After the exercise we had on shore, the sitting in our wet clothes, kept us cold and shivering, while our pull-a-boys, who had no other covering than nature bestowed, seemed to rejoice in a soaking, and kept up a loud chorus, of which the usual prevailing subject was

the white man's generosity, and his obligation to "dash dollar! big white dollar!"

In the evening we weighed, and continued our voyage along the coast. We passed the fine river Volta, seen from the mast-head flowing through a beautiful level country, not sufficiently elevated apparently, to secure it from inundation. We passed Occa and the Danish fort of Quittah, which Governor McLean said was formerly situated close to the sea. It is now apparently at a considerable distance from it. We here purchased some stock.

Friday, April 1st.—At Little Popoe we found H.M. vessels 'Rapid,' 'Termagant,' and 'Bonetta.' The Commodore in the 'Madagascar' was gone to Prince's Island. We had an opportunity of communicating with England by 'Termagant,' and by the Commander of the 'Rapid,' who was going to join the Commodore, a strong letter was written to that officer, stating the invaluable services which had been rendered to the Expedition, by Lieutenant Littlehales, in conveying the sick from the mouth of the Niger to Ascension; and the unwearied attention with which he devoted himself to their comfort on the passage.

In the evening we saw a most splendid meteor, which shot across the heavens with a brilliant light, for a distance of about twenty degrees, becoming extinct at 10° elevation. It was like a falling blue light. On the following evening also one was seen, but not so brilliant.

April 3rd.—We struck soundings in the evening near one of the mouths of the Niger, supposed to be the Rio Dodo; but as we did not obtain a latitude owing to the thickness of the weather, we could hardly ascertain our exact position; it was evident that the vessel had been set into the Bight of Benin, by a northerly current, as we found also to be the case last year. We felt our way during the night along the shore of the dreaded delta by the lead. The weather was gloomy.

Monday, April 4th.—We passed the embouchures of the Niger, Sengana, and our own Rio Nun, which the sailors called the "Gate of the Cemetery." We

then stood across towards Fernando Po. Unfortunately our coals ran short, so that we were reduced to

sails and a light fair wind, with which we made wretchedly slow progress. When near the Boteler Rocks off the north-west part of Fernando Po, it fell calm, obliging us to consume the few remaining coals reserved for getting the vessel into the harbour. We had just enough to take us to Shark River, where an English barque belonging to Mr. Jamieson, supplied us with a ton and a half; with this timely help we succeeded in getting into Clarence Cove, Fernando Po; here we met H. M. ship 'Madagascar,' and our consort the 'Soudan.' The latter was a most deplorable object, lying alongside the jetty. The thatch with which she was covered fore and aft, to protect the goods, &c., from the rains, was in a very ruinous condition. We found Mr. Anderson, the second master, left by Captain Trotter's orders in charge of that vessel, in delicate health, having suffered much from fever. Assistant-Surgeon Stirling, who had gone on to Ascension with the sick in the 'Dolphin,' and thence to England with invalids, now rejoined us.

Captain Foote knowing Captain Allen's intentions, had very kindly commenced clearing out the 'Soudan;' he also lent us caulkers and every assistance during his short stay.

The utmost exertions were made to get both vessels ready for sea as soon as possible, it being an object with Captain Allen to make no longer stay at Fernando Po, than was absolutely necessary for this

purpose; but to keep moving about as the most likely way of securing the health of the crews,—which was now very good,—as well by change of scene and excitement, as change of air. Some alarm had arisen on approaching the coast, by a few returns of fever, which seemed to verify Dr. McWilliam's opinion, that all would be attacked. However there were not many cases, and they happily soon recovered.

We gladly availed ourselves of this prolonged opportunity, to become acquainted with this interesting island of West Africa.

Fernando Po lies in the Bight of Biafra, between the parallels of 3° 12′, and 3° 47′ north latitude, and 8° 26′ and 8° 57′ east longitude. It is evidently of volcanic origin. In form an oblong square, broadest in the southern extremity; about thirty-five miles in length, and twenty-two in breadth. The land is high, and in many parts precipitous. Two principal mountain ranges intersect it, running in a direction nearly north and south, of which Clarence Peak towards the northern end, rising to a height of 11,040 feet, presents the leading feature; while a much less elevated range at the southern extreme, separates Melville Bay and Cape Badgely, terminating in a gradual slope towards North-West Bay. The appearance of the island at any view is picturesque in the extreme, being well-wooded, even towards the higher ranges; while skirting the sea-coast, may be observed numerous varieties of high and umbrageous

trees, of which the graceful palm and the magnificent bombax stand forth conspicuous. The southern half is more deficient in wood, but it presents beautifully diversified features, with patches of open park-like scenery. The altitude of the mountain, commands even in the dry season, an abundance of water, which expends itself in numerous rivulets in the bays. One very essential point in the island, is the absence of swampy and marshy ground, except in some few places.

The principal settlement is in the crescentic little bay or cove of Clarence, at the northern extremity of the island, and is a better-looking place than could be anticipated, connected as it always is, in an Englishman's imagination, with the mortality which occurred in clearing it some years ago. The houses of the West African Company and the town are built on a cliff about one hundred feet above the level of the sea, —composed of tufas covering basalt; but which, according to Mr. Roscher, the mineralogist, are of three different ages and relative positions. The lowest formation is a volcanic breccia, composed of pebbles, basalt, and ashes, products of volcanic action. The dip at the point is 5° to the north-east: near the town the formation lies nearly horizontal. The second is composed of thin layers of ashes, in which are embedded conglomerates, consisting of fragments of basalt, with a compact structure dipping 15° to the south. The third formation is of an aqueous precipitate, com-

posed of alternating beds of aluminous masses, and of fine conglomerate, dipping 20° to the south-east. The trees are well cleared for some distance, but leaving an abundance of dense brushwood, which, indeed, in such a climate, it would be quite impossible to keep under.

There is but one principal street; on each side of which the wooden houses, amounting to 180, are placed at irregular intervals. The population is between eight and nine hundred, including the Krumen. Independently of the latter, whose number varies much according to circumstances, the residents are chiefly liberated Africans from Sierra Leone. They are generally well behaved and happy, but extremely indolent. The men barter with the natives for palm-oil, while the females overlook the cultivation of the yam and such other vegetables as form their principal food, and are in demand by the few white residents and the crews of ships which occasionally touch here.

It is not a little singular that although so close to the mainland of Cameroons, only twenty-five miles off, much of the vegetation, and nearly all the birds and animals, are peculiar to the island; and the native Edeeyahs form in themselves a contradistinction to their not distant neighbours, both in their physical characters and language.

In Boteler's very interesting narrative of the expedition of H.M. ships 'Leven' and 'Barracouta' on the

east and west coasts of Africa, he says, "Our intercourse with savages of various tribes and nations, for the last four years, has far exceeded that which generally falls to the lot of navigators, or of travellers overland, yet never did we meet with a people more savage in appearance, or more singular in their customs, than the people of Fernando Po." If that officer could have had time and proper opportunity, no doubt we should have been furnished with many particulars of their domestic and general history; and it seems truly astonishing that no subsequent visitor should have taken the trouble to inquire into the condition of this strange people, or to draw attention to the anomalous combination of barbarism and civilization which obtains among them.

Hitherto they have only been known to Europeans as the Boobies, or Bubies, and perhaps satisfied with the belief that this name must have arisen from something connected with their mental condition, too many visitors of the island have passed over unheeded, or with a few casual remarks, this most singular people.

The proper title of this race is Edeeyah, how or whence derived we know not. The first impression on beholding the Edeeyah in his native woods is certainly anything but favourable, and makes one feel rather anxious to avoid communication. The face is cut and disfigured with transverse stripes, which, to come up to their standard of beauty, ought to be as

much raised and corrugated as possible, which is only attained by a tedious process in cicatrizing the wounds. The hair is done up into a number of little knobs with red clay and palm-oil, or drawn down behind and plastered with an immense mass of earth, weighing four or five pounds, and secured with grass-thread. The body is painted, or rather daubed, rudely over with yellow or red clay, so as often to give the most frightful and savage look. No European vesture or scanty cloth conceals any of his nakedness; perhaps a few dried leaves, some fibres of palm-branch, in front, offer an apology for more necessary coverings: but his ignorance of civilized requirements prevents his feeling any constraint in the presence of a white man. Most of them wear flat circular grass hats; others in shape not unlike a small bee-hive, and decorated with the feathers of the green parrot or magnificent blue plantain-eater, together with bones of snakes, monkeys, dogs, &c., &c.; but if a chief, a priest, or buyeh-rupi, the all-potent amulet of a goat's head stands forth as the frontispiece. The flat hats are secured to the hair by a wooden skewer.

On meeting a stranger it is usual with them to advance with a sort of dancing motion, the long wooden spear raised on high, as if to be brought into immediate use, conveying anything but a comfortable feeling to the mind of the spectator, who cannot on a first occasion divest himself of the belief that the wild *ballet* is the precursor to a tragedy. No sooner, how-

ever, is the spear depressed, and the word "Bubi—friend," pronounced in a gentle tone, than the barbarian offers his hand with looks truly expressive of the salutation, "I am your friend;" and a further acquaintance with the native character, their singular laws, and social system, removes all prejudice, and raises him high in estimation.

In physical conformation the Edeeyah people are for the most part well made and muscular, with an average height of five feet six inches, deduced from actual measurements. The lower extremities are particularly powerful and largely developed; this probably gives rise to the appearance as if the body were unnaturally long, and the legs from the pelvis downwards shortened; the continual exercise on foot, as well as the habit of sitting in their huts with the knees drawn up to the chin, must tend to produce this unusual increase. The hands and feet, especially of the females, are smaller than in any African race we have seen.

The face of the Edeeyah is more inclined to be round, the cheek-bones not so high, the nose less expanded, the lips thinner, and mouth better formed, than in their continental neighbours. The skin, too, is not so black, it is rather of an olive or brown shade; the hair is silky rather than woolly; the countenance is open, good natured, agreeable, and the eye expresses intelligence.

How or when they first settled in this island is not

known, since we could not discover that they have any traditionary history, or record of past events. The curious laws, and some parts of their religion, certainly lead to the presumption of their having had connexion at a remote period with a civilized people.

As far as the language is concerned we have but little assistance, since it bears so few and slight affinities with any of those at present known of Western Africa, as shown in the appendix on this subject by Dr. J. C. Latham. What is more strange, is the fact, according to good authority, that two, if not more, different languages are spoken on this small island; thus in Băn-nă-pā, Băssă-pū, Băs-sīl-lī, Rĕ-bōl-lā, Bărĭŏ-bă-tā, Băs-sā-bū, Bŭ-ŭ-tōnōs, Tū-pūl-lă-pūl-lā, that spoken is the Edeeyah of Vocabulary No. I. At West Bay, Bī-īllĭ-pā, Bā-rĭo-bī, there is another distinct one, while at a town, name unknown, on the south-east side, a peculiar dialect obtains, so unintelligible to those near Clarence Cove, that while bartering, with such as visit them to purchase the earthen pots and jars made there, the traffic is carried on altogether by signs.

It is impossible to speak too highly of the disposition and character of this singular race; and had we not ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with them, we should hesitate to repeat the statements made by persons who have lived much among them. They are most generous and hospitable to strangers in their own rude way; and wherever we visited

them, they proffered us a share of whatever food they were eating. Humane and kindly disposed to each other in their respective communities, both in sickness and health; willing to assist each other in difficulties; brave, yet forbearing, and reluctant to spill the blood even of an enemy, their battles are not attended with cruelties, their religious rituals untainted by human blood; in this affording a notable difference over many other Africans, where man is made by his fellows the grand victim in conciliating the Juju or Fetiche. Murder is unknown among them, so much so, that one of their chiefs received the cognomen of "cut-throat," for an attempt made on one of his subjects whom he discovered stealing from a vessel of war's boat in 1825; and which affords also an instance of their antipathy to theft. In fact, we have seen them exposed to such temptations as few Africans could resist, and yet not betray the confidence placed in them.

Neither foreign or domestic slavery is tolerated; indeed, a spirit of freedom and independence is discernible in their looks. The Spaniards were driven off the island during the latter part of the last century, for endeavouring to entrap the people and carry on the slave-trade.

The females are here treated with greater consideration, and have less of the hard labour which is assigned to their sex throughout all other parts of the West Coast. Their principal duties are cooking food,

Invoking the Mohi before a hunt

preparing the palm-oil, and transporting it to market; or if the husband is engaged in any occupation away from his village, one or more wives accompany him to carry his food and palm-wine. They seem to be very gentle and feminine in their manner, and much attached to their husbands and children.

There are about fifteen towns and villages situated at different points of the island, but none of them are built at a greater elevation than 3,000 feet above the level of the sea. The dwellings in many of them are most primitive and uncomfortable, being simply a piece of coarse matting extended over four upright posts, just large enough to screen the tenants from the dew, and occasionally rain, but open to all the winds of heaven; a pillow formed out of a block of palm-tree, or sometimes a stick about four feet long, is supported at an elevation of about six inches, by two forked sticks put in the ground; the advantage of which singular pillow is, that a loving couple can each put the arm round the other's neck, by passing it under the stick, as was shewn us by two young girls; this, and a small earthen pot to boil yams in, being the only articles of furniture either useful or ornamental found among them. The more influential persons have their domiciles of wattled palm-leaf, some even plastered with mud, particularly at Bănnăpā and Bässă-pū, which, being at no great distance from our settlement at Clarence Cove, have probably been imitated from those of the settlers. When we remem-

ber the variable climate of Fernando Po, it seems truly astonishing that anything human could exist under the miserable circumstances in which so many of them are placed; and yet they not only enjoy good health, but are robust. Cutaneous affections are the most common, especially a bad variety of the African psora, also dracunculus or Guinea worm; fevers occur most frequently at the commencement of the rainy season, but are not often fatal. Small-pox, that great enemy of mankind, especially the black portion, sometimes makes its appearance among them, carrying off immense numbers; nor has much been done to introduce the process of vaccination among these hardy islanders.

At the entrance of their towns and villages, there is a hut for holding the palavers or councils of each community; there is also one for the secret ceremonies of the bŭyĕh-rŭpi or priest, and an elevated mound of earth, from which he utters his incantations, while the people walk round in procession. Of the number of inhabitants we can only hazard a surmise, since no authentic accounts could be procured on the subject from the natives themselves. Judging, however, from the known harems of some of the chiefs, as also the population of some of the smaller towns near Clarence, there must be at least from fifteen to twenty thousand persons scattered over the island. This agrees very much with what we learned from a liberated African, who had been at nearly all the towns. In

such of them as are settled near the coast, there are three divisions of labour—hunting, palm-nut and wine gathering, and fishing; the yam planting being common work for all the tribe.

Each town and village has a chief, or Ērĭ-cō-cō-nŏ, whose authority depends on the number of his subjects, paying merely a nominal deference to each other according to that standard.

The religion of this strange people is paganism, while at the same time they believe in, and worship as the supreme object of their adoration, an unknown Great Spirit, whom they call Rŭpĭ, and whom they assert to be the Almighty Ruler of the world. The intermediate idols are called the Mŏhs; there are two officiating priests to each tribe; the chief priest who chants at the great religious festivals, or Bŏtă-kīm-ŏ; the other is the gods'-man, or Bŭyĕh-rŭpi. These parties possess unlimited confidence; whether in health or sickness, peace or war, their councils prevail over all others; and whenever disputes occur, the issues depend more on their influence than that of the head men or chiefs, to whom civil matters are referred.

The Mŏhs or idols are rude wooden or earthen figures, mostly under the charge of priests, who offer to them such portions of cooked venison, fowls,—if white, so much the better,—ground rat, and palm wine or topi, as the people bestow on their objects of worship.

The Edeeyah always spits out the first mouthful of whatever he is drinking, for the use of the Mŏhs. Every one carries about the person sundry charms or amulets, supposed to protect from evil. Many of these are very curious, and may, in connexion with other circumstances, tend to throw some light on the early source of their religion. Some of the most valued of these are goats' heads; the fat of sheep or goats enclosed in a piece of intestine, and fastened round the neck; the skin of a small species of wild cat, the *Genetta Richardsonii*, which being scarce and difficult to procure, is so much prized, that scarcely anything will induce them to part with one; the specimen of this animal we sent to the British Museum, was skinned in the most dexterous manner from the mouth. It was only obtained by accident: the man in whose possession it was, being intoxicated, was persuaded to part with it for a quantity of tobacco, which would have purchased half-a-puncheon of palm oil. Another very singular amulet we also got hold of with difficulty; it was round the neck of a fisherman, and probably represented the uncertainty of life in his occupation, and dependence on the Mŏhs. It was a small model canoe, having inside of it some minute bones covered with clay; it was suspended from the neck, and had connected with it some heads of dogs and monkeys, as also goat's fat in pieces of intestine*.

* In another chapter we have drawn attention to many remarkable coincidences existing between the religious observances of the different tribes of Western Africa and the Ancient Egyptians.

The principal religious festival of the year is just before the planting of the yam, at which season each village makes up a large hunting party, for the purpose of capturing deer, monkeys, ground rats, and buffaloes; the latter are reported to be wild, scarce, and only procurable at a considerable elevation; they call it Bush beef, or En-cŏ-pŭ; the colour of skin is said to be mostly black above, and white beneath.

All the products of the chase are devoted to this feast or offering to the—alas! awful truth—unknown God, Rŭpī; portions of the meat are first presented to this great spirit, through the mediation of the Möhs, or idols, after which the assembled multitude, partake to repletion of the animal food, combining with it abundant libations of palm-wine, or topi. They believe by this, the deities are conciliated and a good yam season ensured.

On the death of any member of a tribe, lamentation is made for seven suns, or one week. The body of the deceased is first shaved, then covered all over with white clay, and buried the day of his demise. A hole is dug, just large enough to receive the body placed on the side, with the legs doubled up in a sitting posture; and the head laid towards the high mountain called Clarence Peak.

The whole term of mourning is a month, or twenty-eight suns, during which the relatives assemble together in one place, where they eat and drink, but as they then use the topi in a more fermented state,

or spirituous liquors if they can be obtained; it is generally rather a season of quiet rejoicing than of sorrowing. At the end of the month, four of the sons, if the party may have had such family, otherwise, the four nearest male relatives, are obliged to go out hunting for the ground pig, a large description of Echimyna —the *Aulacodus Poensis*,—a favourite food of the Edecyahs, which when cooked, is partaken of by those only who were engaged in the hunt; after which some of it with yam and palm-wine, are placed over the grave for the supposed use of the dead.

One of the most unfortunate accidents that can happen, in their opinion, is to touch the foot of a deceased person; they say it is certain to be followed by the death of the unlucky individual, and perhaps under the continued influence of religious fear, brought on by such an occurrence, it may be indeed realized. All their rude ornaments are buried with them.

The money, a sort of small limpet, (*Patella*,) with a hole drilled through it, and made up into strings, as also the yams or other property, is divided equally among the children, if there are any, if not, among the nearest relatives.

They believe in the immortality of the souls of the good, and that evil spirits* can afflict them both here and hereafter, so that one great province of the

* Mōh-wăllā-bī is the expression both for devils and their hell or bad place.

priest or Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭ, is to grant charms which may have the power of keeping away this dreaded influence.

The system of betrothal observed among Eastern nations here obtains in the case of the first wife. It must continue at least for two years, during which time the aspirant to Edeeyah beauty is obliged to perform such labour as would otherwise fall to the lot of his intended wife; carrying the palm-oil to the market, water for household purposes, planting yams, &c., thus realizing in part, Jacob's servitude for his loved Rachel, "And they seemed but a few days, for the love he had to her." The girl is kept in a hut, concealed from public gaze as much as possible. The courtship or betrothal commences usually at thirteen or fourteen years of age, but connexion is not permitted until the conclusion of the two years, and should frail nature yield before the specified time, the offence is treated as seduction, the youth severely punished, as well as heavy fines exacted from his relatives; indeed to seduce an Edeeyah is one of the greatest crimes against their social system.

The period of betrothal having expired, the girl is still further detained in the hut until there are unequivocal symptoms of her becoming a parent, which failing, the term is prolonged until eighteen months. On her first appearance in public as a married woman, she is surrounded by all the young maidens of the tribe, who dance and sing round her, and a feast is held

by the friends and relatives. The probationary system of betrothal is only observed for the first wife, who keeps all the others in order, polygamy being universally permitted; the number of wives here as elsewhere in Africa depending very much on the circumstances of the party. Some of the chiefs have upwards of one hundred wives and concubines. Bŭllōkŏ, the so-called *King* of Bărĭŏ-bātāh, a town seven or eight miles from Clarence, is said to have upwards of two hundred. Females are evidently, from whatever cause, more numerous than the other sex.

Adultery is considered to be one of the most serious offences, as the penalty indicates; for the first transgression both parties are punished with the loss of a hand; in the case of a man, however, he cannot forfeit the other hand, the punishment for a repetition of the offence, being severe chastisement and heavy fines extended even to the property of the relatives. The woman loses the remaining hand for a second act of adultery, and banishment from the tribe. These unfortunate creatures take refuge with the Krumen at Clarence, but they always feel deeply the exclusion from their native town, regarding it as a far greater loss than the deprivation of their hands. The amputation is performed with a common knife and is done at the wrist joint; after the operation, a strong vegetable astringent is applied, which is said to restrain the hæmorrhage perfectly. Clay is put over all, and

the arm held upright by a relay of friends. The body is well covered over with clay and palm-oil to keep the patient as warm as possible. We examined some of the stumps of these unhappy offenders against the Edeeyah moral code, and they seemed to have been as well done, as if under the care of an accomplished English surgeon.

In their military arrangements they are no less sagacious and prudent than in their civil governance. Every one above the age of fifteen is liable to take part in their wars. They are all exercised with a precision which astonishes a European. Forming into sections, and marching in regular order, armed with long wooden spears, slings, and a few with muskets; the Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭ and Bŏtă Kīm-ŏ, or chanting-priest, often taking the lead, and apparently directing in a sort of singing tone, the evolutions to be performed. The wars usually result from some aggressions, perhaps trifling, between certain towns, mostly those at a distance; but they almost always end without loss of life. Perhaps a few may receive painful spear wounds—the kind-hearted Edeeyah being reluctant to take a fellow creature's life—and then they come to an amicable arrangement.

They are remarkably expert in the management of the spear and sling, and scarcely any animal, however small, can escape them at a moderate distance.

Such as have fire-arms are very proud of them, and soon become first-rate shots, using them principally

against monkeys and the large antelope or golden roode bok. They station themselves near brooks or certain trees where these animals are likely to come, and imitate so faithfully the several cries, that these cautious inhabitants of the forest are enticed to within a few paces of the spot where the sportsman stands prepared to salute them with the deadly discharge; for it is a rule among them,—powder and shot being both so scarce,—never to fire unless they are quite certain of securing the object.

The usual occupations of the people are hunting, fishing, and procuring the palm-nut, each of which is followed by separate persons in the town or village; but during the time of planting the yam, all are very industriously employed. This takes place before the conclusion of the rains in November, and as the underwood grows so rapidly, it is a work of labour to get the grounds properly cleared. The yam and corn plantations are kept in excellent order, and the twining foliage of the former being supported on upright canes, gives something the appearance of a hop-field in the commencement of the season. The yams of Fernando Po are justly considered the finest in the world, being very farinaceous, and when well cooked, mealy like good potatoes.

The natives have several methods of catching fish, which abound all round the island.

One of the most plentiful is a species of clupæa, resembling in size and appearance our English sprat,

these they obtain with the seine; but their favourite sport is trolling for bonettas, which are here large and well-flavoured.

These fish usually frequent the bays morning and evening, to procure a meal off the tiny elupæa; this, therefore, is used alive as the bait, one person in each canoe being employed with a small line and hook to take these lesser fry, while the others stand up and with a long cane and line keep the tempting prey flickering about on the surfare of the water, where it soon attracts the hungry bonetta, who in his turn falls into the trap of the wary fisherman. It is an exciting recreation, and some of the officers were very fond of it, especially as enabling them to indulge in a luxury which though so plentiful, is difficult to be obtained; what the Edeeyahs do not require for their own tribe can only be purchased by tobacco, and they would very often refuse half a dollar for a fish which five or six leaves of the favourite weed would have procured.

The canoes are long, rather flat-bottomed; sharp-pointed forward, but square aft, where the steersman sits; he is usually a person of some importance, and has the hair done up behind into a mass of red clay, so large and weighty that it is impossible to look at him in the frail bark, without feeling that the least motion in a wrong direction would overturn him, and down he would go like a stone; swimming being an art almost unknown among them. The sail is made of grass fibre. On the top of the light cane used as

a mast, there is always suspended a bunch of grass enclosing some charm against danger and bad luck.

Land crabs are very common round the edges of the bays, and form at certain seasons a large and much relished portion of the food of those who live near the sea. These active little crustaceæ scarcely move out of their holes in the dry sand, during the daytime, but at night they run about on the beach in immense numbers; the natives then sally out with torches of resinous wood, the light of which allures them, and they are easily taken. One evening, while at West Bay, the shore looked as if illuminated, by the number of flambeaux which flitted about in all directions.

One strange peculiarity in the Edeeyah tribes, is the inclination they feel to work, hunt, or dance, in unison; thus, whenever it is necessary to get them to labour, all the males of the village or town must be employed; in this way an immense deal is accomplished in a few days. Mr. Scott, a coloured person, who generally superintended their operations at Clarence, informed us, they could move the largest trees, and transport them, without difficulty, merely by the habit they have acquired of using their strength together; so that when the same number of other negroes would be pulling away one against another, without much effect,—the Edeeyahs are enabled to carry enormous weights. They are, however, very uncertain and capricious, seldom continuing many

days consecutively at any work; and should the Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭ take it into his head that the Mŏhs or idols are unpropitious, the whole tribe would walk off without further notice; but while engaged, they get through a great deal of work, either in clearing the ground or removing timber. Each man has with him his favourite wife, who carries his food for the day; and they all come armed as if for a fight, instead of to peaceful occupations. The wages are paid in tobacco and spirits, and very little suffices.

We were suddenly startled one morning at Clarence, by hearing a slow, sonorous chant, performed as it were by one voice of immense power, which struck on the ear with the most singular effect.

On looking in the direction of the sound, we observed about 200 Edeeyahs or Bubis, armed with spears, marching round in a large open space near Mr. Scott's house; first moving in single and double file, then forming into sections with tolerable regularity; while at the head stalked the Bŏtă-Kĭm-ŏ, or chanting priest, vociferating from time to time a few sentences, with the accompanying noise of a wooden rattle (vide African musical instruments), on which all present took up the dirge or incantation. Nothing could exceed the exact unison in which they joined; it seemed truly as if one person with stentorian lungs was enacting this extraordinary ceremony.

We concluded they were meditating an attack on the well-filled tobacco and rum casks in the adjacent

store; but in a short time they all suddenly and quietly separated, moving off to a place where some work was to be executed by them.

It seems, that they never commence any undertaking either of pleasure or business, without invoking their Mŏhs or idols, and the ceremony we witnessed, was for that purpose.

The palm-nut and topi-gatherers are a separate class, who live almost entirely by this avocation; the products of which are exchanged for necessary articles of food, game, or fish. They ascend the trees by passing a hoop round, in which they insert the body, and leaning back in it, they draw up the feet one after the other, until about fourteen inches or more is gained; the rough bark of the palm prevents their slipping, and the hoop is jerked a little higher, and so on until the top is reached; they become so expert by practice, that they mount up with great rapidity. Most of them suffer from excoriations and ulcers about the legs, by rubbing against the rough palm-bark; and sometimes they meet with very disagreeable occupants at the summit, in the shape of snakes, who there betake themselves for the insects and smaller birds which frequent the feathery branches.

The Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭs also officiate as medical advisers. They use several plants, chiefly as external applications. A favourite remedy is anointing the body all over with palm-oil and clay, and making the patient sit near a fire. They apply the leaves of a small

herbaceous plant, either a *Plumbago* or *Salvadora*, to produce blisters, and it acts with rapidity and violence; nothing is, however, considered so efficacious as the mediation of the priest.

As it was desirable to be ready for any emergency, whether for going up the river or for returning to England, should orders arrive from Government for the abandonment of the enterprize; and they were most anxiously looked for,—every heavy and bulky article which could be spared was landed, with the view of lightening the vessels, and enabling them to take in as much coal as possible; and the 'Wilberforce' was laid on the beach for the purpose of clearing the bottom, which was found to be very foul.

The arrival of Lieutenant Littlehales in the 'Dolphin' gave an opportunity of showing our gratitude to that kind officer for his great humanity to our sick men.

Wednesday, April 13th.—H.M. steam-vessel 'Driver,' on her way to China, arrived, bringing no instructions from Government. Some newspapers, however, contained a speech made by Lord Stanley on the 5th March in the House of Commons, in which he stated, that "Her Majesty's Government did not feel themselves justified, even for the important purposes for which it was thought right to dispatch the last Expedition, to run the risk of sacrificing the health and lives of more of Her Majesty's subjects by repeating the attempt. So far then as white men were con-

cerned, it was not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to renew the Expedition to the Niger."

This intelligence had the effect of determining Captain Allen to delay his proposed ascent, in the hope of being relieved from responsibility by instructions from England; and the arrival of H.M. Brig 'Rapid,' on her way to the Bight of Benìn, gave an opportunity of inquiring into the rumour of the attack of the Model Farm and the death of Mr. Carr, both of which objects Lieutenant Earle kindly undertook.

While the 'Driver' was lying in the bay, taking in fuel, some of the officers being very anxious to witness the Edeeyah method of hunting, we made an arrangement with our friend the Chief of Bànnăpā to assemble his people; which he did on the 16th. However, only Mr. Phayre and another would venture, some one having hinted at the possibility of jungle fever and other perils. We started off to the place of rendezvous about three miles from Clarence, and there found our Edeeyah allies congregated to the number of two hundred. The place selected for the scene of the day's amusement was beautifully picturesque and diversified, and we only required a more favourable state of the weather to have enjoyed it more fully. The unclothed and clay-bedaubed natives were lying about in little groups, smoking with evident *gusto* the much-prized tobacco, and speculating on the success of the day.

Soon after our arrival they commenced fastening a large net made of cocoa-nut or palm fibre to the sur-

T. R. H. Thompson del. R.N. J. W. Cook, sc.

Edeeyan village, North west Bay, Fernando Po

rounding trees; to which point it was intended to drive the game. The Bŏtă-Kīm-ŏ having kindled a fire, bellowed forth his incantations to the great spirit Rupi, first in a slow, easy tone; by degrees he got more excited, calling out loudly for the assistance of the deity, and occasionally with uplifted spear performing sundry uncouth gesticulations, while his numerous companions joined their voices in rude chorus. The whole scene was indeed very wild and striking; nor did it lose any of its interest from being enacted beneath the lofty bombax and graceful palm-trees by which we were surrounded. The features of the chanting priest became contorted, his body covered with perspiration from his exertions, and he looked like a person out of his senses. How far this religious excitement might have carried him we know not: fortunately for us, who had ventured so far to see the chase, the spirit Rupi was at last propitiated, and in an instant all rushed to a small tree with a somewhat broad leaf, which they plucked, and began rubbing between the hands; placing a little branch in their armlets, and also in the button-holes of our shooting coats; this the interpreter informed us was to be a token of compact between all parties, that if any then present should be killed or wounded by spear or gun, it was to be considered the result of accident, not design, and as such should pass without retaliation.

The natives then spread out into two long lines, diverging to the right and left, from the spot where

the net had been arranged, taking care to put us out of harm's way as much as possible, at the narrow pathways on the outskirts, where the larger deer were expected to break through. All the party then began to beat the bushes. The noise and hubbub on every side was deafening, especially as the startled game bounded forth from their hiding places, when spears and sticks were thrown in all directions at the frightened creatures, who, if they escaped these dangers, ran down between the lines and were captured at the net. This uproarious chase had not lasted more than half an hour when, much to our regret, it was put an end to by the approach of a very heavy tornado, from which we were but too thankful to take refuge in the town, not, however, without getting a good wetting, which our dark-skinned companions seemed to be as anxious to avoid as ourselves.

We were much pleased with the kindly anxiety of the Edeeyahs to prevent our being injured, while they were most desirous to show us all the amusement. The chief and his headmen received a present of some pounds of tobacco, with which they were well satisfied. They only captured a few bush rats, *Cricetomys poensis*, some porcupines, *Atherurœ Africanæ*, and two black-rumped guevis, *Cephalophus melanotus*, a small description of antelope; but to make up for this the natives brought us alive the proceeds of another and more successful hunt some days after, in which we gladly recognised two splendid specimens of antelope.

The *Cephalophorus Ogilbyii;* of a rich golden brown, somewhat paler on the belly; the face, ears, and back of neck clothed with black hairs, which become more rigid and numerous along the back. The horns are short and conical, about two inches long, marked with five or six irregular transverse ridges. These, the first two perfect specimens sent to England, were forwarded to the collections at the British Museum and Zoological Society of London.

CHAPTER VII.

Mr. Jamieson's settlement at Bassa-pu—Mr. Beecroft's knowledge of the native character—Gigantic trees—Botanical remarks—Monkeys—Squirrels—Birds—The spiny-tailed flying squirrel—The large blue plantain-eater—Sun-birds—Large snakes—The mason wasp—Krumen catching a turtle—New moon dances of the Africans—Bimbia—King William—Odd costume of that chief—His wives—Tribute paid in slaves—Royal displeasure—Avaricious demands—Fondness for strong liquors—King William's consequence—Mòndoleh—Yellow Nako, the Lord of the Isles—Voracity of the blue shark—Peculiar structures about the head—Supposed uses.

Messrs. Roscher and Thomson went over to Mr. Jamieson's settlement, Shark River, near Bassa-pu, which they reached with some difficulty, having adventured themselves in a crazy vessel, which had been a racing galley in times past, but was now so split and disabled by tropical suns, that it required one man constantly baling to keep her afloat; to add to their disagreeables, some of the negroes were refractory, and, regardless of a heavy swell which was setting in, would just paddle as they thought proper.

The place selected by Mr. Beecroft for the settlement is most judiciously chosen on a small promon-

tory, fully exposed to all the benefit of the sea-air, and, moreover, the dense brushwood which springs up so luxuriantly at most other parts of the island is here wanting; fine forest trees abound, but from some peculiarity, the soil is dry, and there is no tendency to the vegetation just spoken of. From all that was learned, it appeared to be a very healthy locality, and few who have resided at it have suffered from dangerous fevers. Mr. B. received them with his usual truly English frankness, aided in all their inquiries, and enabled them to pass a sojourn of five days most agreeably, under his hospitable roof. There is a store attached to the place for the purpose of trafficking with the natives for palm-oil, and Mr. Jamieson's ships generally touch here to fill up any deficiencies of cargo or provisions that may be required.

The natives of Bassa-pu, the adjoining village, are like the rest of their countrymen, very harmless and good-natured, but now and then they are obliged to have a war palaver with some distant town, in consequence of the seduction of a female, or some petty quarrel; but although they are all well trained in their military evolutions, the nature of the country does not admit of an open engagement, so that the offensive is confined to certain strategies by which they get near enough sometimes to inflict a spear wound or two, and perhaps in their retreat bear off with them slight scratches "*à posteriori*," to show that they prefer running away rather than deadly combat.

They are greatly attached to Englishmen, and have ever shown the most friendly feeling to the white residents, whose opinion they regard as law. Fortunately Mr. Beecroft unites with his kindliness of disposition, a thorough knowledge of the native character here and all over the coast, so that they respect him very much. The timber in the neighbourhood is remarkably fine, being different species of iron-wood, red-wood, African oak, and many sorts of fine woods unknown as yet by their botanical characters, but producing excellent timber. The *Bombaceæ* are the largest in Africa, some of them being one hundred and fifty feet from the base to the first branch, while the buttresses by which these immense trees are supported often occupy a circumference of fifty or sixty feet. They are truly the giants of African forests; the wood being very soft and buoyant, is suitable for canoes, but scarcely for any other purpose. Most of them have in the dry seasons festoons of beautiful parasitic plants pendant from the branches, or convolvuli twining gracefully round the trunks. The trees most prized by the natives, are the palm and goora or *Sterculia**, apparently a different species to that found on the mainland. The former, besides affording a refreshing drink—topi, or palm-wine—yields the oil which adds zest to their simple cookery, and procures them in barter the luxuries of tobacco and rum;

* Dr. Thomson obtained an extremely bitter alkaloid principle from the sterculia, which he designated Sterculine.

while the seed of the latter, furnishes an agreeable tonic bitter, and in the hands of the Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭ works wonders as a medicine. Some of the straighter branches of the young *Tespesia* or red-wood are used as spears.

Among the numerous objects of botanical interest we noticed a species of ebony or *Dyospyros;* a dark-colored wood like mahogany, either a *Swietenia* or *Trichilia;* a fine tree said to produce good timber, either *Myrobolanus* or *Terminalia;* a climbing shrubby *Cissus,* with pulpy berries; a small shrub with alternate simple leaves, apparently a *Unona;* a *Capparis,* a spiny herbaceous shrub with alternate leaves; one small shrubby *Flacourtiana; Spondias,* a moderate-sized tree, alternate leaved, with a resinous bark; the fruit, a sort of yellow plum, was acerb and disagreeable; a herb with simple opposite leaves, something like a *Lawsonia;* a species of *Achyranthes,* a branched shrub with opposite leaves; and, lastly, a herbaceous plant, simple leaved, either a *Plumbago* or *Salvadora,* used by the natives to excite vesication, which it does in a very short space of time.

Mr. Thomson's object was to obtain as many specimens as possible of the animals and birds, and he fortunately succeeded in procuring some new species, and many of those already known, but imperfectly described from furriers' skins.

Among these were the red and black colobus, *Colobus rufoniger;* the black colobus, *Colobus satanas,* called by the Edceyahs, Mu-cho; Burnett's mona, *Cercopithecus Burnettii;* the red-cared monkey, *Cerco-*

pithecus erythrotis, native name Mo-bah, a very curiously marked animal, the ears and greater part of the tail being dusky red; the hocheur, *Cercopithecus nictitans**; the black galago, *Galago Alleni;* Richardson's gennet, *Genetta Richardsoni*, native name Chipah; the golden roode bok, *Cephalophus Ogilbyi*, native name Cho-oh; the black-rumped guevi, *Cephalophus melanotus*, native name Se-chi. Of *Sciurinæ* several interesting varieties: the red-cheeked squirrel, *Sciurus erythrogenys*, native name Buso-pi; the red-armed squirrel, *Sciurus rufobrachium;* Stanger's squirrel, *Sciurus Stangeri;* the red-forked squirrel, *Sciurus poensis;* and the spiny-tailed flying squirrel *Pteromys derbianus*, native name Iba-he; these latter abound in the woods at Bassa-pu, they only move out of their resting-places about sunset, and as they shoot across from tree to tree, they expand the membranous portion that fringes each side between the upper and lower extremities, which gives a curious effect to their flight. A tufted porcupine, *Atherura*, was apparently a new species. This and the bush-pig, *Cricetomys poensis*, are favourite articles of food among the Edeeyahs.

* We had a young one of this species about four months old, which became so attached, that, if left alone, it would throw itself down, and beat its head violently against the ground, testifying the deepest grief. It was very tame and interesting in its habits. One day it was necessary to leave the little creature, which as usual displayed much sorrow at being deserted, throwing itself on the floor, and uttering the most plaintive cries. On our return two hours afterwards, the little hocheur was found dead, with the hands firmly pressed over the eyes, as if it had expired in a paroxysm of grief.

The island abounds in rare birds, and some of remarkable fine plumage. The large touraco, *Scizorhis gigantea*—the prince of plantain-eaters—as large as a pheasant, plumed in different shades of rich metallic blue, yellow, rufous, and black, the head surmounted with a slightly raised crest. In the evening these birds make a loud noise like tu-ea, tu-ea, which resounds through the still woods. They are difficult of approach. The white-backed crow, *Corvus leuconotus*, an interesting bird, but just as wary of the sportsman as his more sombre brother of our cold clime. Several species of *Ploceus* or weavers. A fishing-eagle, believed to be new. Various *halyons* or kinghunters; the green banded cuckoo, *Chalcites auratus;* and another probably new, with richer plumage. The orange-crested bush-shrike, *Malaconotus chrysogaster;* the yellow-billed coucal, *Zanclostomus flavirostris;* plumage glossy violet, and purple above, cinereous below, with a tail of rich deep blue. The purple-headed grakle, *Lamprotornis ptilonorynchus;* the golden-eared grakle, *Lamprotornis chrysonotis;* and a third, supposed to be new; all of them were plumed in dark colours of rich metallic tint.

The most interesting, however, are the little nectarinidæ, of these the olive-backed sunbird, *Cinnyris chloronatus;* the red-collared sunbird, *Cinnyris chalybeia;* the green-rumped double-collared sunbird, *Nectarinia chloropygia*. A beautiful species, one of which

we sent to England by Dr. Stanger, after whom it was named, *Cinnyris Stangeri*, is very abundant and the colours fine, being red, yellow, and other less gaudy tints, blended with rich metallic green.

These pretty little denizens of the woods are very properly named sunbirds, for while most others are quietly buried in the thickets to avoid the heat and glare of the noonday sun, these diminutive pilferers are often actively engaged on the nectar-teeming yellowish flower of the *Papaya carica*, which when in blossom, is their favourite haunt. We procured most of our specimens in the vicinity of one of these trees.

Snakes are numerous and some very large; one, a description of Boa, about fourteen feet, was killed during our sojourn, and if the accounts of the natives are to be credited, another of an enormous size had been killed at West Bay, where it had long been the terror of the Edeeyahs. They said it was shot while in a state of inactivity, after having gorged itself with a golden roode bok; a proof, if true, of its large dimensions.

Attached to the wooden rafters of the house, little circular and somewhat pyramidal collections of clay were noticed, which on examination were found to be divided into a number of oval cells, each containing one or more eggs, and some small *Diptera* intended as future food for the young larvæ. The labours of this careful mason were but too often fruitless, as a large description of *Synagris* was observed busy at

work robbing them of their contents, almost as soon as they were completed. The fabricators of these curious structures require about a fortnight to finish them; they commence with a circle of glutinous clay, and as the work proceeds the cells are divided off, and stocked, until the whole are concluded. They are about one inch and a-half in diameter.

Mr. Beecroft, with his usual kindness, lent the officers one of his boats and five Krumen, to take them back to Clarence Cove. On the passage, these hardy pulla-boys gave a proof of their dexterity in the water, by capturing a large turtle. On observing it, one of them slipped quietly overboard and got hold of the prize, which not liking the manipulation, tried to escape, taking the Kruman down with it; three others immediately dived in, and after a little struggle brought the turtle up, but from the immense power of these animals in their proper element, even four men were insufficient to master it, and it became necessary for the fifth to join his companions. It was not a little amusing to observe the conflict, the turtle having evidently the best of it, and keeping the bipeds mostly under water, whence every now and then five woolly heads shewed themselves for an instant, only to be dragged down again; fortunately the boat was at hand, and with some difficulty the troublesome *Testudo* was lifted in-board.

The rainy season at Fernando Po commences about the latter end of May or beginning of June, and ter-

minates about the middle or end of November, but the tornadoes are not so frequent there as most other parts of the coast. According to Roscher's observations, the barometer rises with the east, and falls with the west wind, the maximum being when S.S.E. breezes are blowing, and the minimum when the S.W. wind obtains.

We found the evenings at Clarence to be for the most part, cool and agreeable, and the best time for walking. The settlers and natives also participated in this opinion, for then they come out to enjoy the favourite pastime of dancing. Moonlight enhances the pleasure not a little, when, seduced by its beams and the dance inspiring tom-tom, they give up the greater portion of the night to enjoyment. It seems odd how people can find *music* in so rude an instrument as a wooden drum, yet who that has "by pale moonlight" heard it afar off, commingled with the merry voices of the dancers, has not listened with pleasure, and confessed that it had its claims to please.

We must admit we have often been allured to the festive scene, where nature's untaught children performed their unsophisticated movements to no other sounds, and as the subdued light of "nature's own bestowing" fell through the rich forest drapery, on happy faces and graceful figures, could even have joined the merry throng. The new moon is, throughout Western Africa, the signal for rejoicing and renewed offerings to the gods, and when we have

remarked this among other coincidences, we have recalled to mind the time when the Israelites also held their "new moon feasts and solemn festivals." The Krus are passionately fond of dancing, but we cannot say much for their performances. They generally represent some hunting scene; one personating the animal, while the others with their bodies bent and the hands resting on the thighs, jump about in a very uncouth manner, looking as if they were trying to escape the notice of the chief performer. Sometimes on board ship they go through a rude but amusing figure, each person holding a capstan bar or some other large piece of wood, with which they strike the deck, accompanying the performance with a grunt. Although we cannot praise their dancing, we must admit their mimicry to be admirable, and they even accomplish extempore plays, in which various characters are imitated in a very diverting manner.

Friday, April 22nd.—In pursuance of Captain Allen's determination to keep moving about as much as possible, in order to preserve the health of the crews by change of air and scene, while waiting for orders from England, we sailed this day from Clarence Cove to the opposite coast, where a twin mountain faces the noble peak of Fernando Po.

> "Like cliffs that had been rent asunder;
> A dreary sea now flows between."

The shallowness of the strait separating these two remarkable elevations would tend to prove either that

they have been disjoined by the action of the sea, or that the reverse process, their junction, is taking place. Future surveys will determine if any difference takes place in the depth of the channel; but probability points to the latter hypothesis; from the contiguity of numerous rivers, especially the Niger, a considerable portion of the enormous amount of alluvium of which will naturally be deposited in the deep bend of the Bight of Biafra, especially when there is an obstructing subaqueous ridge, marked by the line of volcanic agency which has raised these mountains and the adjacent islands in a S.W. direction.

The immediate object of our little voyage was Bimbia, where we hoped to be able to procure fresh provisions and vegetables, which were not to be had at Fernando Po, where a lazy population of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, neglect the advantages of one of the richest soils in the world.

We coasted along some beautiful inlets and islands, clothed with magnificent forest-trees. At the entrance of one of these—the strait dividing Bimbia Island from the mainland—the vessel was anchored, as it was not prudent to venture into an unknown channel.

Captain Allen being desirous of communicating with the chief, of the high-sounding title of King William—his real name being Billeh—landed at the island forming the strait.

We were conducted by the chief's son, Ejèh, who had taken a passage with us from Fernando Po, to the

palaver-house, where he assured us we should find his august father. On our arrival, however, we ascertained that his sable *Majesty* was washing himself; patience was therefore to be practised, and we knew from past experience that not a small portion would be in requisition.

The palaver-house—which the royal ablutions afforded ample time to examine—was destitute of any object of interest to beguile the time, being simply a protection from the sun and rain. However it attained the object in one sense, since it induced that negative state of enjoyment,—only appreciated in a hot climate, —the luxury of reposing in a cool shade and,—doing nothing.

After a great deal of equivocation and loss of time we were informed that the chief was on the opposite side, at his house; which was distinguished by its commanding position, size, European form, and the splendour of whitewash, from the numerous huts scattered *en amphithéatre* along the beautiful shores of the strait, and up the slopes of the lower hills of the eastern base of the Cameroons Mountain. They were, however, grouped into distinct villages. We immediately crossed over to the landing-place, and walked up a rising ground, between neat huts surrounded with gardens, to the chief's residence,—a very good-looking wooden house. The principal floor is raised from the ground, and is surrounded by a verandah; it contains some good rooms. Around the *grand salon*

were ranged about a dozen large chests, containing cloth of European fabric. The walls were adorned with looking-glasses of divers sizes, and abundance of crockery-ware, for no other purpose than show, and some of it in very curious juxta-position. A back-room was used as a sitting-room, and had chairs and tables, with presses around the walls, the depositaries of his wealth, and various articles for trade with the natives of the interior. Beneath this floor were other apartments, or magazines. Two long lines of huts behind the *palace* were occupied by his numerous wives, children, slaves, and cattle.

This house, and another of smaller dimensions, were constructed at Fernando Po, by Mr. Scott, and cost one hundred dollars. Being situated on an elevation, and whitewashed, it had a very imposing appearance; well calculated to impress the surrounding natives with a due idea of the chief's dignity, derived from his friendship with the white men. He was, in fact, confirmed in his supremacy by Colonel Nicolls, about fifteen years ago, when he surrendered the sovereignty of his country to England, and received the title of King William. He is brother to the former chief, Naka, who ruled over all the country at the eastern base of the Camaroons Mountain called Bakwileh; that is to say, he had more wealth than the neighbouring chiefs, who will hardly acknowledge even a nominal supremacy. There are several of these petty chiefs in the little strait of Bimbia, whose villages are

so close together as to give the appearance of one town.

We were kept waiting here also a long while for the sable chief; who doubtless, like other great men, thought that our opinion of his importance would rise in proportion to the time we were held in anxious expectation of his appearance. To our frequent inquiries why he did not come, we were told "the king wash him face" and would come "one time," *i. e.*, directly.

Our original information of his being on the island, proved to be correct, as we saw him land, and walk up the hill in very stately guise, surrounded by a few attendants, and his own person protected, not only by an umbrella, but by a large double-caped boat-cloak. He saluted us in the English fashion, by shaking hands; but seemed very anxious to impress us at once with the idea of his magnificence, drawing our attention particularly, and with great complacency to the evidences of his wealth and power around the room, displayed in the form of pots and pans and chamber utensils, which he said made him look like a "proper king," whereas if he had not all these things the "bushmen" would think him a "small man." He apologized for having kept us waiting so long, and said he had recently lost his son, and five of his people. All his women were consequently in mourning, that is, they had heightened the extreme ugliness of their features, by plastering their faces with indigo. We saw one lady of the court, with a mirror, before which

she was laying it on pretty thick; and with much care if not taste. The object of our visit was for the simple and homely purpose of purchasing fresh provisions, and of opening a better system of traffic than had hitherto prevailed. His *Majesty* however entered at once into subjects of high diplomacy. He denounced with great eloquence or volubility the inhabitants of one of the islands in the Bay of Amboises, who being rendered "sauey," by the impregnable nature of their position, had set his authority at nought. After having drunk fetiche water, and made an agreement with him that the islands should be his, they had fired at his people, stolen some of his wives, and caused the death of his son. Moreover, they invariably attacked canoes which they thought not strong enough to resist them, and had even killed two Krumen; they were therefore enemies equally of the black and the white man. This latter part of the charge was not likely to be true; but it was found that the natives of Bimbia, sometimes assume the Kru mark, and pretend it had been conferred on them by some head Kruman. For all these crimes and treasonable practices, he threatened vengeance in very energetic terms, and suggested the propriety of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel, 'Wilberforce,' declaring war upon the refractory subjects of our firm ally, and that we should at once proceed to burn their town as a lesson to them.

Captain Allen endeavoured to explain to him the disadvantage of being in continual hostility with his

neighbours, which would be detrimental to the legitimate commerce he professed the disposition to promote, and he tried to awaken in him the better principles of charity and good-will towards his neighbours. The chief said he would willingly make peace with them, if they would pay him eight hundred "coppers;" which it was not likely they would agree to, as they did not admit his claim of supremacy. However, Captain Allen said he would try and settle that "bob" for him.

He next turned with equal vehemence to an alleged infraction of an agreement with the English agent at Fernando Po, who had engaged thirty or forty of his "boys" to work at a stipulated price; but he said, they could not get payment, and were frequently flogged, some were even put in prison. We gave passage to ten of these men, who had been working at Clarence, but would remain no longer as they could not obtain their wages. One of these told us, that Billeh buys annually one hundred slaves at the town of Rumbia, in the Bamboko country, on the western base of the Camaroons Mountain. Some of these he used to sell to the Spaniards, and the rest he kept to "make him strong." The Spaniards, however, had not been here for more than a year, in consequence of the presence of our cruisers in the vicinity. Ejèh, son of the chief, a remarkably fine young man who had been sent to Clarence to remonstrate, related the result of his mission with much grace and energy; and being nearly naked, his attitudes, though sometimes

constrained by his sitting posture, were seen to great advantage. As he spoke in his native language, he could not of course be understood; but it appeared that his remonstrances at Clarence had nearly procured him also a flogging. The chief, during the harangue, frequently uttered passionate exclamations, clasped his hands as if invoking justice, or wildly threw his arms about as in menace. He said to us, that he had always thought the white men loved justice, and "did not slave;" but now, some of his free people were kept as slaves. He intimated that he might with ease take ample vengeance, by going with all his canoes and war-men and attacking the settlement. He was cautioned to be more temperate in his language, before a captain of a man-of-war; that he would pursue a very improper course by such a proceeding, which would not fail to bring destruction on himself and his town. He said with animation, "Suppose I go in the bush, which way man-of-war ship catch me there?" He was again advised to be less violent, and his complaint would be inquired into. On his indignation in some degree having subsided, Captain Allen endeavoured to "make trade" with him for some fresh provision, of which we were much in want; but he being inflated with an idea of his consequence, would hear of nothing less than thirty dollars for a bullock, and six for a goat. After being well scolded for his rapacity, he did not mend the matter by offering the goat as a bribe; pretending that it was always intended as a

present for "Cappy." During the discussion he dispatched half a tumbler of pure brandy, without offering any to his guests; and after every sip, which he enjoyed to the utmost, by rinsing his mouth with it while any strength was left, before swallowing it, he was careful to keep in the flavour of the spirit, by crossing both his hands over the glass. On his want of hospitality being hinted at, he offered us bottled ale, and even wine; but could not open his heart to the extent of brandy. We only asked for some green cocoa-nuts, which afforded a delicious and refreshing beverage, without taxing his cellar. On being accused of slaving with the Spaniards, he strenuously denied having done so for many years.

Billeh, or King William, as he likes to be called, is a fine specimen of a savage potentate. He is tall, and with a good forehead, though somewhat ferocious features; to which, however, his late excitement may have given a worse expression than usual. Though he assumes so much consequence, he is but the principal trader, and owes his apparent superiority over the other chiefs, to the possession of a greater number of wives and chattels; by which he acquires the consideration due to a "big man," all being looked on as "little boys" until they can boast of such increase of their substance. Several others, especially John King his brother, have perhaps more influence in the interior, though they cannot shew such a house, nor array themselves in such a boat-cloak.

Finding it was impossible to obtain live stock from this fellow on anything like reasonable terms, we left him very much to his disappointment, as he expected to make a great harvest. He frequently called on us to come back and receive his mark of friendship.

Saturday, 23rd April.—We sailed from this inhospitable chief, who had very much disappointed us, and defeated his own purpose, and proceeded in the afternoon to the Bay of Amboises, in hope of being more successful there, and thus by competition bring him to his senses. In steaming round the island, the eminences were crowded with natives, vociferating and gesticulating as we passed; but whether in peace or war we could not then ascertain. However, soon after we had anchored near the island called Mòndoleh, they came to us in great numbers.

Sunday, 24th.—Remained quietly at anchor. The natives readily comprehended why their canoes were not suffered to come alongside during divine service, and they did not trouble us all day.

25th.—Sent an officer to explain to the natives of the island that we wished to purchase stock. The chief very shortly came on board, and professed his willingness to trade; nevertheless, we had almost as much trouble as with the chief of Bimbia. They had abundance of goats, pigs, plantains, &c., but did not know how to ask enough for them; and they were so capricious, that it required the utmost patience to await

their decision, in the articles which were offered to them in exchange. Mr. Bush the purser, however, managed them tolerably well. They seemed to be very shrewd, especially a young man called Yellow Nako, from his skin being of a lighter colour than the rest of his countrymen. *He* claimed the sovereignty of two of the islands, named Damèh and Mòndoleh, in right of his father, Old Nako, the former chief of Bakwileh already mentioned. Ejèh, the son of King William, had asserted that *his* father was the lawful sovereign; but when informed what Yellow Nako had said, he acknowledged the truth of it.

Yellow Nako is therefore the *veritable* "Lord of Isles." Moreover, he rejoiced in the titles of Pilot and Interpreter to H.M.S. 'Wilberforce.' It was by his intervention that all our bargains were made; and in estimating the price of the articles offered in barter, they were very suddenly depreciated, when compared with the value betrayed in his anxiety to obtain the same as a gift. On this being pointed out to him, he very naïvely said, "Trade is trade, but dash is dash." The lord of the isles was, however, more interested in the transaction than we had suspected; for we afterwards found they were his own goats, which he kept on the island Mòndoleh, the Lieutenant-Governor of which, being the ostensible salesman, Nako was thus able to regulate his extortionate demands, by an appearance of mediation.

The offal of a slaughtered goat having been thrown

overboard, an inflated portion of it was observed bobbing up and down in the water, not far from the vessel; one of the Krumen thinking it might be a delicate fish for his frying-pan, went in a boat to examine it, and put out the oar to lift it from the water, when to his astonishment, a large shark suddenly laid hold of the blade and nearly dragged him overboard. In a short time a well-baited hook was over the ship's side, which was immediately swallowed, and to the delight of all our sailors, the monster was captured. It proved to be a blue shark,—*Squalus glaucus*,—not above ten feet long, but of enormous capacity in the jaws, which were upwards of twenty inches in diameter, and just such a fellow as might be supposed to have swallowed the "Port Royal soldier, musket and all." There were three rows of serrated triangular teeth, some of which had been recently broken, probably in the mistaken attack on the oar. The bronchial openings, five in number, were near the strong falciform pectoral fins. The tail was particularly powerful, especially the upper lobe. The back and upper part of the body were covered with skin of a deep slate colour, and of a rough granulated texture, the belly and sides whitish. Even after having been some time out of its proper element, it continued to snap when anything approached.

There were several large *remoræ* or sucking fish, adherent by the exhausting power of the muscular laminæ or plates on the upper part of their heads.

Only one beautifully striped pilot was observed; the little creature swam round and round the vessel as if looking for its voracious companion.

On removing the skin of the shark's head, a thick gelatinous-looking layer was seen, in which white nervous fibrillæ were particularly numerous. We could not but think of the possible truth of the views of some physiologists, who consider this structure to be endowed with the especial sensibility by which the shark is enabled to detect the course of ships, and to follow for a long time and distance in their wake.

Certainly nothing seems better adapted than this jelly-like layer for conducting the impressions occasioned by the displacement and irregular action of water, during the passage of large bodies through it. Possessed of this conformation, it is not unreasonable to suppose that a shark, crossing the track of a ship, might thus discover by the peculiar motion of the water, the course the vessel is taking. It is only by some such means we can account for these monsters following as they often do, ships, which by their superior fleetness in a strong breeze, must have left them far, far astern; and yet on the first calm, they make their appearance perhaps to be captured, with proofs of their identity inside, in the shape of bones, clothes, &c., which had been throw overboard many days previously.

This view, is certainly not more inconsistent than

the popular belief, which ascribes to the olfactory organs of the shark, not only this singular faculty of detecting the proximity of ships, but of tracking them.

CHAPTER VIII.

Cameroons—King Bell—The free Egbos—The palace—Native dwellings—Physical characteristics of the Duallas—Mode of arranging the hair—Human sacrifices—The Jibareh creek—Excursion up the Màdiba ma Dualla—Pilot Glasgow—Appearance of the river—Prince Beppo—Wuri Island—Andámako—Wana Makembi—A welcome—Curiosity of the natives—Coffin applied to a singular purpose—A supper party—Opposition of the natives—Scenery—Fishing nets—Yabiàng river—Village of Kokki—An African *wake*—Names of the rivers—Geological features—Trade in palm oil—Causes operating against its advancement—Manufacture of grass cloths—King Aqua—Dangerous shallows.

May 5th.—As Captain Vidal in his survey of this part of the coast of Africa, did not carry his operations far beyond the entrance of this large estuary of the Camaroons, into which several rivers are said to empty themselves, Captain Allen thought it would be a profitable employment of the time we had to wait, and be in obedience to the instructions of the Lords of the Admiralty *, if he could lay down the channel in such a manner as might be useful to the ships trading in the river. We got under weigh with a rising tide, and as we had neither pilot nor marks to guide us, we proceeded cautiously, feeling our way with the lead over the long flats, and anchored off *King* Bell's town. He sent a messenger

* See Appendix.

to say that he was coming on board the 'Wilberforce,' and immediately after, this petty chief,—great trader and greater rogue,—bounded into Captain Allen's cabin calling out loudly for brandy. He was speedily ordered out to wait till he was sent for, which had manifestly a good effect. It was a lesson which he had never before received, and which produced an equally disgusting amount of fawning humility.

'Soudan' only arrived in the afternoon, having been detained by the defective working of the engine. One of her officers, Mr. Anderson, second master, was in a very debilitated state; the consequence of a violent secondary attack of remittent fever, which had nearly carried him off, resisting almost every means used, and only yielding to large quantities of quinine, in six and eight-grain doses. That vessel was therefore ordered to repair to the bay of Amboises.

We landed in the afternoon to return King Bell's visit, and found him in front of his house, seated in a large arm-chair, with no other dress than an ample cotton cloth folded round the loins, and an English black beaver hat on. He was surrounded by a number of his people, who had devoted this cooler portion of the day to recreation. The principal performers were the Egbo men, who, with painted faces, were enacting a rude sort of dance; sometimes pirouetting in a manner which caused the loose grass kilt to fly out in their gyrations, something like the dress of our ballet-dancers. The "free Ebos or Egbos" are a

Bell's [illegible]

Camero[illegible]

privileged class, said to have a language and customs of their own. They are employed in all palavers; and may pass unmolested into hostile countries, which, if true, would establish the fact of a sort of free-masonry existing throughout that portion of West Africa.

They wear no other covering than a kilt or fringe made of grass, about fourteen inches broad, round their loins; and a marabout feather in the hair. A sort of rattle is carried in each hand,—very like those for the amusement of infants,—made of wicker-work, which they shake at one another in the dance. We purchased some of these articles from an old man, who disposed of them with great reluctance; and in order to ease his conscience, he affected to consider us as belonging to the "Free Egbo," a privilege which we did not consider as at all flattering, if certain rites are performed at initiation which rumour has delicately hinted at. This is however contradictory, inasmuch as the society—which is under the direction of the priesthood—is in such repute, that nearly all the men of any distinction consider it to be an honour to belong to it.

King Bell's house is very well built, with a raised story, surrounded by a verandah. A spacious saloon occupies the whole front, and is filled with European goods in chests; piles of crockery; figures and looking-glasses in abundance adorning the walls. Nor was the room devoid of useful furniture, as there were several tables, chairs, sofas, &c.

Like most African potentates, his wealth was to be guessed at by the number of his wives; of which both he and his neighbour Aqua are said to have each upwards of one hundred. These extensive harems do not seem to give rise to the jealous feelings which obtain in eastern countries; on the contrary, we had frequent reason to be disgusted at the open and unblushing manner in which their "liege lords" proffered the women, as if they had been mere articles of household furniture.

The population of this place is large, though no possible estimate could be formed of its amount by us, as the town being laid out in wide streets or alleys, with plantations surrounding the houses, extends to a very great distance from the river. The natives affect to speak of it as interminable, and the population to be beyond all powers of calculation, though they have not settled here many years. The houses are built of wood, with a great deal of taste, and are very clean, as are also the streets, which are bordered with palms, cocoa-nuts, bananas ,&c., affording an agreeable shade as well as abundance of fruit. The people are superior to most of the Africans we have met with on the coast. The men are well made, muscular, and of fair stature; the skin is soft, and in many of them of a yellowish brown tinge. Though the features are not good,—the nose being often rather expanded and the lips thick,—still the countenance is open and agreeable, and quite a pleasing contrast to that of their

neighbours the Bimbians. Some of the women are pretty, but inclined to be fat. Both sexes appear to give themselves up to enjoyment, dress, and the "*dolce far niente*" induced by the climate, which also regulates the amount of clothing on the very narrowest scale consistent with decency; although their profitable intercourse with the palm-oil traders, has furnished them with ample supplies of European articles of dress, they prefer the simple country cloth, or at most, dandyism does not go beyond an English silk handkerchief, worn round the loins. Their persons however look dressy, from their great cleanliness, and the glossiness of the skin produced by frequent embrocations of palm-oil. The chief wears a chain of a number of little negro bells over his shoulders, hanging in a graceful curve down his spacious chest. The women pass hours in dressing the hair for one another, combing, and with little pointed sticks, separating each hair, giving it an opportunity of asserting its individual propensity to frizzle. They finish the toilet by attaching strings of large beads, and a pretty sort of rosette made of goat's fat and the pounded skins of limes; which, though fragrant at first, must rather heighten the natural rancid odour of their persons at the end of a month, until which time the preparation is said to last good. There is, in fact, an air of gentility and fête about the whole population.

"Gaily they dance the night away,
And just do nothing all the day."

Captain Allen having had reason in a conversation with King Bell, to think that human sacrifices were still in some degree practised,—as the ceremonies for his deceased father were incomplete till the chief had killed "a bushman," he addressed the assembled head men on the enormity and sinfulness of the practice, which they readily admitted, but said it was of very long standing among them. However, on proposing to make a regular agreement to abolish the inhuman custom, Bell and all his head men readily assented to it. A Treaty to that effect was therefore drawn up, and duly signed by Captain Allen, being the only one of Her Majesty's Commissioners present, and by A'Lobah—the native name of King Bell—and his witnesses*.

As several rivers fall into the capacious estuary, we wished to examine, if possible, the principal one flowing past Bell's Town, which has long been frequented by our palm-oil traders, and is called by them the Camaroons river, but by the natives Màdiba ma Dualla. King Bell was invited to accompany us on the excursion. This at first he strongly objected to, on the score of the jealousy and opposition of the natives of the interior: and he said the river would take twelve moons to explore; nevertheless, after an animated discussion, he consented to go with us in the 'Wilberforce.'

* This was transmitted to the Colonial Office, and ratified by Her Majesty.

We got under weigh accordingly, in the hope of being able to gain the main branch of the river above the mangroves; and with the assistance of Mr. Lilly, King Bell, and Glasgow a native pilot, proceeded up the Jibareh creek, which the latter declared to be—though a circuitous route—the safest channel in the river. It was found, however, not to be deep enough to warrant our taking the vessel more than seven or eight miles from the anchorage; but prior to returning, the Bòmano, another creek, was explored as far as could be done with safety. This stream, at the highest point visited, had diminished very much, both in breadth and depth, and Glasgow the pilot said it terminated about a mile and a-half further up, towards the mountains. It doubtless receives some of the drainage of the eastern portion of a range of mountains, behind the lofty Camcroons, or Mongo-ma-Lobah, which were visible in the distance.

Having failed in the intention of penetrating by these creeks, we were induced to try the direct channel, which lies close to the actual left bank of the river; but it was ascertained to be so narrow and shallow, that considering the fearful consequences of being left aground at the spring tide, in such a locality, it was necessary to abandon the idea of passing in the vessel, the Mangrove Islands, which conceal the true nature of the river, and to accomplish if possible the survey by a short boat excursion.

A large forty-foot galley, which had been intended for a trip to Bussah on the Niger, was hastily fitted

with double awnings, a swivel placed in the bow, small arms, and provisions for several days, with a crew of nine black men, under Jack Smoke, the faithful head Kruman. Three officers, Lieutenant Sidney, Terry*, and Stirling†, accompanied Captain Allen, as also Mr. Lilly, agent to Messrs. Hamilton and Jackson, who had kindly proffered his services, being not only somewhat acquainted with the river, but perfectly so with the character of the rude people about to be visited. We started soon after noon, on the 7th, with beautiful clear weather and an agreeable temperature.

As a matter of courtesy, or more probably, from anxiety respecting our proceedings, King Bell and his son Prince Beppo in their large state canoes, formed an escort. Old Glasgow, a pilot, who spoke English very well, took the helm, not a little proud to be entrusted with the "war canoe of Queen Victoria's ship," and soon after leaving the 'Wilberforce,' we entered a narrow and direct channel on the left bank. King Bell took the lead, but was soon out of sight, as with our heavily laden boat and few paddles, we could not keep pace with him. We soon found ourselves involved in a labyrinth of creeks, formed by numerous mud islands thickly overgrown with mangroves.

The pilot, however, appeared to know his way quite well, and he attended to Captain Allen's instructions to follow the windings of the channel, which frequently led us close to the bushes; a leadsman in

* Acting Secretary to the Commissioners. † Assistant-Surgeon.

the bow called out continually the soundings, and Lieutenant Sidney laid down the course of the river as we proceeded.

In these parts we had in some places ten feet water, but suddenly shoaling to two or three as we approached the skirts of the numerous sand-banks, which at that season, sometimes extend nearly across the stream, leaving but a narrow passage, even for a boat, under the overhanging boughs of the trees.

The aspect of these little islands exited anything but pleasurable emotions; reminding us of the Niger; for the decaying vegetable matter with which they were covered, and the slimy roots of the Mangrove, emitted a highly offensive odour, and our progress was in frequent danger of interruption from snags, the trunks and branches of broken trees.

After an hour's paddling we got clear of the islets, and came upon a sheet of water about two thousand yards wide, from which the vessel,—anchored off Bell's Town, about five miles distant,—could be distinctly seen. We soon afterwards entered another narrow channel, between two islands, which presented features of much more agreeable character: the mangroves disappeared at the upper end, where the pilot said the tide ceases. By this expression he meant that the water is no longer salt—a circumstance indicated only by the change in the nature of the vegetation, as the tidal influence was felt at the farthest point reached on this occasion.

The first trees, as in the Niger, were low palms, with immense arching leaves or branches—erroneously called bamboo,—from which the natives extract the best palm-wine, called nimba. The long ribs of these are used for the roofs of huts. With these trees are intermixed ferns, the *pandanus*, and a variety of bushes and shrubs of small growth. The foliage appeared of a healthier hue; the banks, though still low, were firm; and the richness of the vegetable kingdom increased rapidly as we advanced, especially when on leaving the narrow channel before mentioned, and passing the upper end of the Jîbareh Creek, we attained the principal object of our little excursion—the main undivided river—a broad and magnificent stream, resembling some of the reaches of the Niger below Abòh, and about four or five hundred yards wide. The banks at the margin of the water were thickly covered with the long grass peculiar to African rivers; immediately behind came ferns, patches of plantains, and bushes of endless variety of form and foliage; many in full flower, and nearly all thickly matted with innumerable graceful creepers, among which some pretty *convolvuli* displayed their many-tinted blossoms. Behind these rose the slender palm, the cocoa nut, and the gigantic bombax, the strength of whose buttresses enables it to defy the rage of the tornado, and to afford shelter and protection to the numerous forest trees that group around it. This part of the river was said to be a favourite haunt of hippo-

potami and alligators, though none of them presented their mail-clad carcases to the inquisitive eyes of our sportsmen.

The afternoon continued very fine, with a refreshing breeze from seaward, reducing the temperature of the air to 84° Fahrenheit; that of the water was 83°. The gorgeous rays of a declining sun, added a tone of gaiety to the surrounding scenery. Some distance ahead, discernible only by the British red ensign and the sparkling of the dripping paddles, *King* Bell's canoe glided rapidly along the left bank, his men keeping time to the wild notes of the singing boy, which were distinctly returned by the echo of the opposite bank. Far behind, in the long reach, came the canoe of *Prince* Beppo, also decked with a gay flag, while frequently on either side of us little barques, containing each but one crouching native, darted across the stream, or along the dark banks, seeking shelter among the long grass, alarmed at the novel appearance of white men in their hitherto unexplored waters. Soon some large huts were seen on the banks, the property of domestic slaves or freedmen belonging to Bell or Aqua, having spacious clearings around them, cultivated with bananas, plantains, cocoas, &c., all denoting plenty; and the cleanliness of the houses and the platforms in front far surpassed the miserable hovels of the lean and dirty "gentlemen" on the lower parts of the Niger. As we advanced, villages became numerous, and all had a comfortable aspect, being built in the neat style

of the Cameroons towns. As most of the principal natives were in the habit of trading with the ships, they frequently recognised Mr. Lilly; and the inquiries they made would hardly give the idea that we were going among an uncivilized people.

About three miles from the apex of the Delta we passed a tributary stream; Glasgow said it was navigable as far as a place called Abo, which could be reached by sunset.

Near this, on the left bank, was a farm belonging to one of Aqua's domestic slaves, Takoh Ma-Kumboh, which struck us as being placed in a very favourable situation, for the bank is high, and the soil, though light, apparently productive.

The opposite or right bank was also gradually more elevated, and the scenery diversified. Three miles further up we arrived at what is said to be the shallowest part of the river: it was there a broad sheet of water, six hundred yards wide, but very deficient in depth all over. However, in two moons, according to Glasgow's statement, there would be plenty of water. He pointed to some grass, at least fifteen feet high, on the right bank, over which he said canoes paddle with ease in the last of the rainy season, at which time a great portion of the low lands must be under water.

A little above this the river becomes much narrower, being not more than three hundred and fifty yards wide, with a depth, though rarely, of eighteen

or twenty feet. The stream is, in fact, divided by the Wuri Island, which is also the commencement of the country of that name, in which a different dialect is spoken from that used by the Cameroons or Dualla nation lower down. The Wuri country is celebrated for its yams, which are taken down the river in large quantities for sale.

As the evening was now fast drawing on, and the current very strong against us, we made the best of our way to reach the town belonging to a friend of Mr. Lilly, where we proposed to sleep. The news of our approach had been spread by King Bell and his men, who frequently stopped at the farms and villages on their way up; so that the banks were thronged with natives, who saluted us as we passed, with deafening shouts, screams, and laughter; the women, of course, evincing the greatest surprise and delight at the novelty of our appearance. With the exception of some little eminences of a friable sort of sandstone, the country seemed here to be level. When the low lands are overflowed the inhabitants are obliged to retreat to these higher grounds, which they reach in their canoes, paddling, in fact, over their former plantations. They prepare for this periodical emergency by laying in a stock of smoked fish, and yams cut in slices and baked, which form a convenient provision for migration. Thus secured against absolute want, they live in temporary huts until the waters subside, and allow them to return to their former residences,

to plant and reap for the next season. At six P.M. we arrived at Bona-pia, the landing-place or wharf of a town called Andàmako.

Here we found *King* Bell and his son Beppo waiting for us, having made up their minds not to go any further; and they used every argument to prevail on us to pass the night there, in which the chief of the town also joined, by offering a very cordial invitation. Captain Allen was, however, anxious to profit by the remaining daylight to reach the next town, as it would shorten the work of the following day. After a sufficient explanation, which was almost unheard amidst the noise and squabbling, we pushed on to the town of Wana Makembi, which we reached at dark, but found that the chief, Mr. Lilly's friend, was absent, having been summoned to a palaver at a town higher up the river, and that his people dared not entertain us without his sanction. King Bell was unwilling to land under these circumstances, as he said he could not be received in a manner becoming his dignity. We found him, nevertheless, enjoying the hospitality of the inferior people, by drinking largely of their palm-wine.

The sight of the miserable huts, which we saw from the boat, close to the muddy bank, and the attacks of myriads of musquitos and sand-flies, made us think better of King Bell's advice, and regret not having accepted the friendly invitation of the chief of Andàmako. We knew not how we should fare if we tried

for a lodging further up the river. The men were tired, having pulled all day without resting, we were therefore unwilling, by pushing them too hard on the first day, to weaken them for the second; King Bell, however, settled the matter, by assuring us there was no town within two hours' pull able to afford us decent accommodation. We accordingly turned back, and glided rapidly down with the current to Bona-pia, where we were received by King Bell and his friends, amid a storm of unintelligible welcome.

After the long confinement in a cramped position in the boat we were glad to land; and having provided ourselves with such necessaries from our stores as might conduce in some degree to our comfort—where so little was to be expected—we began our march along a well-beaten path, at first rising abruptly from the bank of the river, and afterwards preserving a gradual ascent for about half a mile. The dew fell heavily, yet, fatigued as we were, we could not but enjoy the gratification of stretching our limbs on *terrâ firma.*

Overhead flitted innumerable fireflies, and every bush was illuminated by their brilliant coruscations. A few straggling roots across the path, which caused us now and then to stumble, were the only obstacles to our progress; and an easy walk of less than half an hour, brought us to the residence of the chief, or "gentleman," of Andàmako. An immense concourse

of people awaited our arrival, and no sooner had we reached our destination than we found ourselves enclosed in a dense mass of men, women, and children; even the branches of the old tree in the middle of the street, and in front of the chief's house, were loaded with dark urchins; yet, eager as they were to have a glimpse of the Europeans in this inland African village, no annoying act or insulting jest was indulged in at our expense. We could not help thinking of the difference in this respect between these untutored savages and the *mobocracy* of civilized lands.

When the ceremonial for our reception was completed, the crowd gave way, and the chief, a powerfully-built old man, whose grey *wool* "told of many a scorching summer's sun," came forward and conducted us to seats in front of his own door; a chair was placed for Captain Allen in the centre, Mr. Lilly and King Bell being provided with stools on each side; the rest of the party had to accommodate themselves on a long piece of timber, taking precedence of the sable warriors who formed the escort. By this arrangement we had the advantage of keeping the crowd in front, and at an agreeable distance, considering the peculiarly strong odour which emanates from masses of coloured people. The red glare of a large palm-oil lamp, fixed to the wall immediately behind us, played upon the moving assemblage of black skins, causing the deep shades of night to fall in still deeper tone in the back-ground, and producing, by the lurid

glow it shed on all in its immediate neighbourhood, a picture of the most unique description.

After waiting a considerable time,—during which the good-natured people endeavoured to amuse us by playing sundry tricks with a poor idiot,—a substantial repast was served up on a long chest, the utility of which was undeniable, as, according to native custom, after having been the "custos" of its owner's riches during his life, it was destined to be the depository of his mortal remains, when obliged by the universal enemy to relinquish his "grip on this world's gear." Whether this particular coff*er* had as yet figured in the capacity either of a treasury or a coff*in*, it would be impossible to say, but it served perfectly well as a table; nor did the state of our appetite permit us to enter into the inquiry.

The supper was composed principally of stews of goat's flesh, mutton, fowls, plantains, yams, and other viands, some prepared with palm-oil, and others without,—at our express desire; though it must be confessed that the pure fresh oil, which is a constant ingredient in native cookery, is much more palatable than its appearance would indicate, and it is said moreover to be extremely wholesome.

King Bell took merely a glass of grog to keep us company, refusing to sup until we had finished, out of compliment to white men; but when he began, he rapidly made up for lost time, by a well-directed attack on an ample calabash of stew prepared for his

especial appetite. In appeasing his hunger, however, he showed himself mindful of the wants of his faithful attendants, by pitching to them, from time to time, a bone or a morsel of meat, which "largesse" coming direct from the royal hand, was the more acceptable. There was no unseemly scrambling for his Majesty's favour, every one appeared to know for whom the mouthful was intended, by the direction it took, in its progress over their heads.

Supper being ended, every thing was cleared away, *spirits* of various kinds were assembled on the coffin; and although we all felt weary and sleepy, we were obliged to submit to some potations, and a long palaver on the subject of our visit to that part of the river, as well as to listen with patience to the evidently mutilated translation of the eloquence and lengthy arguments of the noisy council, whose loquacity was not at all restricted by the libations consequent on the reception of white visitors.

At last, after an hour's hard battle—in words—between King Bell and the "gentleman" of the town, and one or two of the most notable wiseheads, it was resolved that a fetiche should determine whether it was proper for our party to continue the investigation up the river, or return by the same route;—without any reference to the wishes of those most interested.

The ceremony—over which we could exert no influence—having been duly performed, it seemed to have been decided, without possibility of appeal,

that the excursion was at an end. Captain Allen quietly ventured to express an opposite determination; but as it was thought the wiser course would be, not to waste the precious hours of sleep in useless dispute, he deferred till the morrow should enable him to execute his purpose, in despite of the sacred fetiche.

In the meantime, to divert their attention, and cut short the discussion, a rocket was ordered to be fired, which produced the mingled effect of admiration and fear, on brains already bewildered by potions long and deep.

After strolling up and down the clean street for some time, to obtain a little fresh air, Captain Allen turned into the chief's hut, which had been specially vacated for his reception; and was large, and apparently clean; but it was in vain to try and sleep; the continual noise of the lingering gossips outside, the scampering of the rats overhead and around, the buzzing and tickling of innumerable sandflies and musquitos, and the many salient points of the bamboo frame, which, covered by a mat, formed the couch: all these were sufficient to banish sleep, and make us long for the morning, to enable us to proceed on our little voyage. Other quarters were prepared for Mr. Lilly, Terry, and Stirling; but the two latter after a short trial, preferred sleeping in a tree.

When daylight at length arrived, we proposed to *King* Bell, to start before the sun should attain much

power ; but he declared that his people could not pull without breakfast, and the preparations of this meal was delayed by a variety of untoward circumstances ; among which, not the least important was the perversity of the devoted goat, which required to be caught three or four times before it would allow itself to be killed, skinned, and stewed ; so that by the time this very important affair was dispatched, and we had taken leave of the kind host, it was nine o'clock.

On our way to the boat, we were met by a number of men armed with muskets, who saluted us very civilly in passing, but previously to our embarkation they surrounded Mr. Lilly, and King Bell, whom they engaged in a very animated discussion, on the subject of our further advance. At times the palaver seemed to go on smoothly enough, at others the interlocutors broke out into passionate exclamations and the wildest gestures, which being simultaneously responded to on the part of the bystanders, showed them to be unanimous in their unreasonable stipulations. Our apprehensions for Mr. Lilly's safety, were allayed by his perfectly composed demeanour, as he stood in the centre of this, apparently, angry group.

On reaching the boat, he explained that these people had come from the towns above, to inform us that if we proceeded on our voyage, we should meet with a very bad and savage set of men, from whom our lives would be in the greatest danger. The orator added, that since the white men had come to their

country, they considered their honour pledged for our safety, and therefore they could not suffer us to expose ourselves to such peril; but that *if we were obstinate*, and would not take warning of our best and warmest friends, they would be reduced to the disagreeable necessity of shooting us themselves, in order to save us and them, from the disgrace and mortification of our being killed by bushmen.

The sum and substance of all this, was a jealousy of our becoming acquainted with the river; and dread, that if they allowed us to penetrate beyond their territory, their neighbours would participate in the advantages of intercourse with the white men. It was quite evident, that if they were determined to carry their *merciful* intentions into effect, we had not sufficient grounds to justify our objection. However, Captain Allen thought it better to treat the affair in a cavalier manner; so, laughed at their fears for our safety, and said that our present object was merely to go as far as the upper end of Wuri Island, which we were resolved to do, but that we might possibly return with the *fire-ship*, and then we would see who would dare to stop a white man, and the Queen of England's ship.

The people assembled on the bank, then gave three loud shouts, whether in acquiescence or defiance we could not learn; but they suffered us to pass on unmolested. The men on Wuri Island likewise expressed anxiety about our intentions, and all asked if we were going to the Budiman's country. Some appeared

satisfied with our answers, others endeavoured to stop us by remonstrances and angry gesticulations. Amid all this hubbub, we were much amused with the *nonchalance* of our pilot "Massa Glasgow," who steered on our course steadily, without condescending to repeat his answers.

Wuri Island is about five and a half miles in length, by about three in width. It is beautifully wooded with a great varicty of trees, among which the magnificent bombax stands forth the monarch of all. The banks are steep and high on the immediate border of the river, but the ground within is very low and swampy. This enables the natives to catch fish in a very simple manner, by cutting wide trenches through the bank, so that when the water rises in thc river, it flows by these channels to the low ground behind, forming large basins, into which great quantities of fish find their way, and are rctained by means of the sluices. When the river falls the water is let off again, a net having previously been placed across the aperture, by which means the exit of thc finny prisoners is effectually prevented. Another method of fishing is practised on this river as well as on the Lower Niger. A large wicker enclosure is laid out close to the bank, having a sliding door at the outer side, and bait within : a person watches from a stage or little hut, built close to the basket or enclosure, and when he sees that a fish has entered, and is fairly engaged with the bait, he lets fall the sliding-door, and

prevents the retreat of his prey. The island seemed to be very thickly populated, but chiefly on the banks; the huts forming a continuous town for nearly half of its circuit, at the upper end. The people gathered in crowds at every landing-place, inviting us to come on shore; and the young women and children, accompanied us for some distancee, running along the banks.

We noticed some girls who were beautifully formed—the graceful action of their limbs in running, being unimpeded by any garment; though they appeared to appreciate the value of ornament, from the tasteful way in which their heads were decorated with large beads, &c. On reaching the upper end of Wuri Island we turned into the Ebonjeh Creek, which separates it from the main land on the left bank. This creek or branch is much narrower than the other. The banks were here also crowded with the inquisitive natives, who ran along shouting and waving for us to land. Passing rapidly down with the current, we soon rejoined the main stream.

The pilot having asserted that the town of Abo—at the source of the Yabiàng River—the little affluent we had passed in going up, was at a distance of only six hours, and navigable for canoes, it was considered advisable to examine it, especially as we had the benefit of a little flood-tide. This stream is not so broad as the other, being only about one hundred and twenty yards wide; and at a distance of six miles, it is divided by a low woody island. We were obliged to take the

narrowest channel, the other being blocked up by large trees thrown across, to impede the progress of hostile canoes. The branch we entered was so straightened, that in some places, had we been using oars instead of paddles, they would have touched the boughs of the trees, which stretch out a very considerable distance from the banks on the east side. It was full of snags, or trunks of trees, against one of which our boat struck so violently, we thought there must be a hole knocked in the bottom, as the water rushed in very fast, but it proved only to have been the plug forced out. The smell in this creek was very offensive, from the quantity of decayed vegetable matter on the banks, that in some parts were thickly matted with creeping plants: these afforded hiding-places for canoes, which were drawn into their leafy retreat by a small aperture among the tangled underwood, like the opening to a nest. We were very happy to get to the main stream above the island, but had not proceeded far, when a heavy shower of rain obliged us to take shelter in a hut at the foot of a hill. As there seemed to be little prospect of its clearing up, a man was sent to reconnoitre a village called Kokki, which Glasgow said was at a short distance; and having ascertained that we could be accommodated, we resolved on passing the night there, with the view, if possible, of going forward to Abo in the morning.

The walk up to the village, lay through a beautiful and well-cultivated country, in which partial clearings

had left some fine groups of trees. We found the chief in great distress at the loss of one of his wives, who had died that morning while he was out shooting. We saw a very large and rare antelope which he had brought home, *Ant. Eurycerus*. During the intervals of his wailing, he drove a hard bargain for the hoofs and horns of the animal, which were all he could be prevailed on to part with. This village was, like the others, composed of neat huts on each side of a tolerably wide and straight street, which had also the advantage of being clean swept. The cooking-houses were all detached, and being open at the side, we preferred sleeping in them, rather than suffer the confinement of the close huts; and we should probably have enjoyed a good night's rest, after the substantial repast prepared for us, had it not been for the incessant howling of the women, who, "à l'Irlandaise," were holding a wake over the dead body of the chief's wife.

The following morning proved cold and foggy, and as the river had become very narrow, with rank vegetation on its banks, from which a noxious vapour was rising, it was not thought prudent to venture any further, and we commenced our return to the 'Wilberforce.' The town of Abo, which we had wished to reach, was said to be about four hours' passage higher up, and to be situated near some rocks, over which the river Yabiàng falls about fifty feet, as well as we could understand from the imperfect description of the natives. We were informed of a

mountain at the distance of four hours overland, in a direction W.N.W., called Wahpaki, with a town of the same name, which is doubtless at the back of the Cameroons, where the Bimbia people also said they were acquainted with a place of that name. A man in a canoe overtook us with a message from its chief, who wished us to pay him a visit; he said that he had started before "the first cock speak," *i.e.*, before daylight, which agrees in distance with the account given at Kokki. The messenger pressed us very much to return, as his master would be greatly disappointed at the white man coming so near his town, and not visiting him. We sent him, however, a small present, which was the object of his solicitude, and the emissary went away quite contented. We rapidly descended the river, passing through Jibareh Creek, which we had in vain attempted to go through in the 'Wilberforce,' and reached our vessel soon after ten o'clock. Although, on this little voyage, we did not reach a greater distance from the sea than forty miles, the object Captain Allen had in view was attained—viz., to ascertain the nature and magnitude of the river, by arriving at the main undivided trunk, which is only eight miles above Bell's Town, and little less than twenty from the sea. Indeed the real left bank of the river comes down as far as that settlement, which is on an elevation of fifty feet above the river.

The opposite shore has a ledge of rocks, visible at low water, corresponding with the compact sandstone

at the base of the cliffs, which would lead to the supposition that the original banks of the river reached as far as this on both sides. It is now, however, low and covered with mangrove trees, as are all the islands within twenty miles of the sea.

They seem, indeed, to be in process of forming a little delta, which may fill up the estuary, and thus regain from the encroachments of the sea, what may have been submerged by some convulsion, of volcanic agency, in the neighbouring mountain range.

The fine estuary of the Cameroons is the common receptacle of several streams; and owes it names to the Portuguese, who called the extreme point Cape Camerones, from the vast quantity of small shrimps found there. This name has been extended to the principal river which falls into it, but the natives, as is usually the case, give to it that of the countries through which it flows. Thus at Bell's Town, it is called the Màdiba ma Dualla; higher up it is the Màdiba ma Wuri, &c.,

Although a beautiful river, it is not to be compared with the Niger. Its average breadth above the mangroves is about four hundred yards, as far as we reached. In the dry season, this portion of the river varies in depth from two to twenty feet, though we rarely had more than eight feet; but when flooded there would be water enough for vessels of any draught. From the accounts, however, of several intelligent natives, the navigation is obstructed by rocks at

Banem, about fifty miles from the furthest point we reached, or ninety miles from the sea; but beyond these rocks the river "goes on" for many days, according to the pilot Glasgow's statement, though he could give no further information about it.

The Cameroons River has two tributaries on the right bank; one the Yabiàng, which we explored a short way up, and another, about twenty-five miles above Wana Makembi's Town. They are both said to have their source in, or to fall over, rocks about fifty feet high. There is also a small stream which falls into Ebonjeh Creek, said to come from Dukabakin, about four hours' voyage up it.

It had been supposed, that besides the so-called Cameroons, a large river,—the Malimba, fell into this estuary; but all the natives agreed in saying, that it is but a divergent creek from the Qua-qua river, which comes from the eastward. Our pilot, Massa Glasgow, asserted that though the latter has more mangroves, it is of less magnitude than the Wuri or Dualla. It is also obstructed by rocks, at about the same distance from the sea. He told us the king of all the Qua-qua country resides at a place called Longassi, about eighty miles up the river. Thus it would appear from all the accounts we received, that there is a range of hills extending from the Cameroons mountains to the eastward; or that there is a high table-land at about one hundred miles from the sea-coast, since the natives said of the four streams, that they all fall over rocks

about fifty feet high. Circumstances prevented our exploring the Qua-qua.

Besides the two rivers just mentioned—the Dualla and the Qua-qua—some creeks empty themselves into the estuary, viz. the Bòmano, Mongo, and Bimbia, which are merely the drains of the high mountain range bounding the western side of the estuary.

With one exception, all the natives declared that there is no water communication from the estuary of the Cameroons round the mountain, to the Rio del Rey, or Rumby River. Young Naka alone said, "If you slave for twenty days in a canoe, you can go round to Balondo on the Rumby River;" but on confronting him with all the principal traders, he acknowledged, that being only "a little boy"—about twenty-five years old,—he could not speak from experience; he had only heard it from others. These traders—chief men—all asserted that the water stops at Balùng, about thirty miles up the Bimbia River, where there are high hills, rocks, and springs of water. There are plenty of elephants in the woods. The Mongo and Balùng people go over the hills by way of Ekombah and Ebonjeh, to Balondo on the Rumby River; or by taking another route from Ebonjeh to Bamboko, on the western base of the mountain. The communication is very difficult, on account of the hilly and woody nature of the country; and it must be lofty, as they said it was very cold. Some of them stated that the River Rumby terminates at Balondo.

May 10*th*.—We went on shore to take angles for the survey of the channel, and a set of magnetical observations*. The latter were made on the cliff near Lilly's palm-tree; but the operations were interrupted by a tornado.

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* The geological character of each bank of the Cameroons river—more properly the Màdiba ma Dualla—is quite distinct. While the right is uniformly low swampy land for several miles towards the base of the mountain, covered in most parts with mangroves, and intersected by numerous creeks[1], the left bank rises at once from the waterside to the height of about fifty feet. It is conglomerate of recent age, containing particles of quartz, about the size of a walnut; small fragments of whitish mica, and of masses of red sandstone, some of which measured four feet; the whole, held in combination, by a light brown clay. The stratification is horizontal, the thickness of the beds varying from a few inches to several feet, in which I could not detect any fossil remains.

These fragments of sandstone are composed of particles of quartz held together by oxide of iron. The iron ore is also found in small fissures of the mass, which are about 0·5 of an inch in thickness, intersecting it in every direction. It is not uncommon to see the iron ore chemically combined with clay, in compact masses of the size of several square inches.

The influence of this abundance of iron ore on the magnetic needle would be greatest at the base of the cliff; yet it was found to be so strong on the surface, as to produce different results in observations made only a few yards apart.—M. Roscher's *Geological M.S.*

[1] The opposite bank has a ledge of rocks visible only at low water, corresponding in appearance with the compact masses of sandstone at the base of the cliff on the left bank. This may lead to the supposition that the real or diluvial right bank has formerly reached equally far as its opposite, but has been submerged by some convulsion of its anciently unquiet neighbour, the mountain. The river seems now in process of reconstructing its bank—so ruthlessly destroyed—by the formation of a delta.—W. A.

On the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Camaroons towns rose rapidly into importance by the export of palm-oil; and for some years there was a flourishing trade, which might be increased to any amount, if the energies of the people were equal to the resources of the country, and the favourable position of the place. It had, however, recently been on the decline, owing to the listlessness and rapacity of the people and chiefs, who are as insolent as they are exacting. This is probably the result of, to them, a useless prosperity, since they appear to be gorged with wealth, of which they neither feel the want nor comprehend the use. The naturally dilatory transactions of the native traders, are prolonged with a fraudulent intention. Thus the practice appears to be, on the arrival of a ship, to trust the goods in advance to purchase a cargo, originally with the view of forestalling other ships; but as this becomes general there is occasionally a regular scramble for the palm-oil as it is brought down the river in canoes. The delay is most injurious, and sometimes the captain falls a sacrifice to the climate or to disappointment, when his death is considered by the natives to absolve them from all obligations. The mate not being able to procure his cargo, takes away an empty ship. This gives rise to arbitrary and summary proceedings on the part of the whites, and continual disputes;—"bad bobs." Some of these Captain Allen had to settle; but in one case his decision was reversed by a fight on shore, in which there was gain to both parties of numerous broken heads.

In a position so advantageous for commerce, it is very desirable that it should be put on a better footing by the interference of our Government, by establishing some authority to enforce such "simple regulations, as without throwing an impediment in the way of trade, might afford protection to the merchants against the extortion of the natives, and enable them to recover their just debts; while, on the other hand, it should secure the natives against arbitrary proceedings on the part of the whites, by preventing the necessity of having recourse to them*."

The inhabitants have made some advance towards civilization, but they now appear to be stationary, and without some fresh stimulus will retrograde. Missionaries would probably find this a promising field for their labours; and A'Lobah,—King Bell—assured us that he would afford a kind reception and assistance, if any would settle at his town and teach his people.

The women appear to be more industrious than the men, and employ themselves in weaving very fine and beautifully-coloured grass cloths, about three-quarters of a yard wide. They have dye-woods which produce the richest shades of red, crimson, yellow, and blue, and would form most important articles of export, could the people be induced to collect them on a large scale.

There are here two rival towns almost adjoining, being separated only by a little ravine. The lower is King Bell's town, the other is governed by "King

* Captain W. Allen's dispatch to Lord Stanley, 19th May, 1842.

Aqua," who likewise can boast of a large and well-built house, with the name "King Aqua" on a board hung upside-down over the door, which was generally kept locked. He resides in a hut on the beach, which also is kept clean, and in very nice order.

This potentate came on board to see us. He was a fine old man, more dignified in his manners than his younger rival Bell, and less importunate. He wore a scarlet great-coat, and a regal crown made of tinsel, the globe and cross of which, having been broken off, were *lashed on* with ropeyarn. We made a similar treaty with him to suppress the practice of human sacrifice, though Aqua frankly told us that the "Chop head bob was set, long time 'go." It did not take place on his father's death, and he believed it never would again. However, it was better to bind him and his headmen by a regular agreement, which cost only a very trifling present. He seemed to know exactly the articles which had been given to Bell, and stipulated for the same. The first thing he showed anxiety to possess, was the magnetic toy, of ducks and fish; which excited never-ending wonder and admiration. Some of his slaves said they came from a country where there are white or yellow men, and horses: others from a forest district where their neighbours make a *battue*, and catch the poor natives. in crowds.

Since we last saw Bell he had been up to Makimbo to buy goats. He met the chief of Bùdiman, with

a great many of his bushmen, who made a "bad bob" with him, for having taken the white men away without letting him see them. They had an angry "palaver," which, however, was "set" amicably by the distribution of sundry bottles of rum and a few yards of cloth.

May 11*th.*—Some slight cases of fever made us anxious to return to our healthy Bay of Amboises. Weighed at daylight, and having previously surveyed the channel in the real river, we continued it over the flats in the estuary, until we had connected it with Captain Vidal's excellent survey. Mr. Lilley, who was coming away at the same time with a palm-oil ship and a schooner, kindly anchored them wherever we wished, to serve as stations for our operations.

The swell, or tumultuous heaving of the water, is here sometimes very great. The day the 'Soudan' passed out, over the shallows, although there was scarce a breath of wind stirring, the long rolling swell was greater than we have almost any where else seen; and Nako, the pilot, said, if ships are suddenly becalmed here, they are in great danger, unless well provided with anchors and cables.

May 13*th.*—We anchored in the Bay of Amboises, near the island Mòndolch. Found the 'Soudan' lying here all well; Mr. Anderson, second master, had recovered, under the refreshing influence of the sea-breeze and cool land-wind, which are hardly ever failing in this beautiful bay; our few cases of fever rapidly gave way to their bracing effect.

CHAPTER IX.

Bay of Amboises—Mongo ma-Lobah; probably the "Chariot of the Gods" of Hanno—An amusing chase—Abobbi, or Pirate Isle—Difficulty of the ascent—The inhabitants of the Amboises—Their language—Damèh—Mòndoleh—Geological formation—The Chief of the Woody Hill—The purple-crested plantain-eater—King Will—Royal displeasure—Bad bobs or palavers—Bimbia Island—Physical characteristics of the Bimbians—Superstition—Ideas of white doctors—Bimbian musical instruments and music—Return to Clarence Cove—Enquiries made as to the fate of Mr. Carr—Young Glorio—Edeeyah dance—Visit George's Bay—Natives—Topi or palm-wine—Edeeyah females—Mode of communicating by music—Glasgow and the drum.

THE mountainous district in which the Bay of Amboises is situated, was formerly called by the Portuguese, Tierra Alta de Ambozes, according to Mr. John Grazilhier, who made a voyage to Old Kalabar in 1699. The native name for the highest part of the mountain is Mongo-ma-Lobah, but at the back or further inland, it is called Mokali-ma-Pako. The isolated peak near the bay, about five thousand feet high, is Mongo-m'Etindeh. The summit of the principal mountain, rising thirteen thousand feet above the level of the sea, was often lighted up most brilliantly by the morning

sun, while the deep shadows thrown across its base involved all the lower parts in gloom, hiding the deep ravines which furrow its rugged sides. Although at a distance, this noble mountain appears to rise by one continuous and somewhat abrupt slope from the sea, on a closer view, it is found to consist of a succession of hills with intervening valleys of the richest soil, covered to within a third of the summit by beautiful forest trees, which are also seen fringing the still higher ravines. The remainder is clothed with grass, which becomes more scanty, as the colour which approaches the reddish brown of the ashes near the cone, sufficiently indicates. The volcanic origin of the whole of this district, is strongly marked by the scoria and numerous streams of lava which have reached the sea. From the present condition of its surface, one might suppose it to have been for ages in a state of repose; but there is reason to believe it sometimes betrays its latent fires. Mr. Lilly, who has known the mountain many years, assured us he had seen flames near the summit. This might be accounted for by the practice of the natives, who burn the grass in the dry season for the purpose of catching the wild animals, which they style "bush-meat;" but several of the principal natives of Bimbia declared, that about three years previous to our visit, that is about 1839, "fire came out of the ground;" they said, "God made it;" in contradistinction to that caused by the burning of the grass. "They all saw it; and at Mongo, they felt

the earth shake like a steam-boat." "The people there feared it would kill them all." This, coupled with the name of the mountain, Mongo-ma-Lobah, or God's Mountain, offers a reason for supposing it might be the "chariot of the gods" of Hanno, the Carthaginian. He says, in the Periplus, "we discovered at night a country full of fire. In the middle was a lofty fire, larger than all the rest, which seemed to touch the stars. When day came, we discovered it to be a large hill, called Teonochema,—the Chariot of the Gods."

To judge by the gray curling smoke which issued from many parts of the woods for some distance up the mountain, it must have a large population. Along the sea-shore are many villages, some of which we visited; and although the natives were described by Grazilhier as the "worst blacks of all Guinea," we found them very civil. In his time they had a little trade in slaves, chiefly with the Dutch. They now have intercourse only with the Bimbia people, whom they supply in a great measure with the nutritious well-flavoured plantain fruit.

14*th*.—The morning seemed to threaten us with a terrific tornado; however, "Yellow Nako" said, the "thunder was only making play," in fact, the dense black clouds which seemed "big with storms," soon dispersed, and we weighed and went round the bay, taking soundings. We passed inshore of Bobbi Island in less than two fathoms' water. A large portion of the inner end of this islet has fallen since Captain Allen visited

it in 1833, with Colonel Nicolls, R.M., in the 'Quorra' steamer. At that time no communication had ever been made by Europeans with these islands, nor with the main land, except for the purposes of aggression, by carrying off the poor natives into slavery. The consequence was, that they looked on all white men with suspicion, which Colonel Nicolls was desirous of removing. When the 'Quorra' came into the bay, the surface of it was covered with little canoes, pursuing their daily avocations of fishing. All made for their strongholds in the islands or for the mainland, with the utmost speed; the 'Quorra's' boats following close upon them until they were near to the shore, where some natives checked their advance by firing muskets. Two small canoes, however, having a man and boy in one, and one man in the other, were so far out to sea, that the vessel was between them and the shore; they paddled with all their might, thinking, poor fellows, that it was for life or liberty; and when they found our boats were approaching, the single man abandoned his canoe, and added his energies to those of the man and boy in the other, hoping by these means to get in shore, being still some distance from the cutter. There was now a most amusing chase,—both parties entered into it with their utmost vigour, but with very different motives; the Krumen—six powerful fellows—pursued with the keen relish of sportsmen or slave-catchers, while despair added strength to the poor natives; they doubled

repeatedly like a hare with their light canoe, and shot far a-head, while the cutter took, comparatively, a long while to turn.

Their strength could not hold out in such an unequal contest, and they were at last fairly under the bows of the cutter; when, as if feeling that the choice of death alone was left to them, they all three plunged overboard. In an instant, all the Krumen dived after them, and brought them on board the 'Quorra.' The two men came up the side, finding that further resistance was vain; but the poor little boy kicked and screamed, and clung to everything within his reach. They lay prostrate on the deck, terror-stricken wretches. However, as may be supposed, they were "*quittes pour la peur.*" The object of Colonel Nicolls in getting hold of them was, to endeavour to instil other feelings into them, being anxious to establish a friendly communication with the inhabitants of the mainland and these islands, in the hope of being able to benefit the natives, as well as to procure live stock for Fernando Po. They were therefore quickly received with friendly looks and encouraging tones; their fish was purchased, and they were sent away with presents of handkerchiefs, beads, medals, and biscuits, as much astonished at this unlooked-for result, as they had been previously terrified.

But to return to the proceedings of the 'Wilberforce.' Coasting along the beautiful base of the Cameroons mountain, and passing several bold rocky points, she

anchored off the town of Jonjeh,—beyond the bay,—where "Yellow Nako" said, plenty of stock was to be had. The natives came out in considerable numbers, armed with muskets, and determined to repel the hostile descent, which they no doubt expected we were about to make for the purpose of carrying them off. However, "Yellow Nako" was dispatched with a small "dash," and agreeably undeceived them. The chief sent a goat in return as a "dash," to "open trade."

If it were not for the difficulty of access, on account of the constant surf on the shore, this would be an admirable place for a settlement. The square rocky headland called Mokali, forming the little bay, is an impregnable position for a fortress, and some beautiful land with apparently rich soil, stretches from the low isthmus up the side of the mountain. A small river flows into the little bay near the promontory. The chief would very willingly have sold the whole for one thousand fathoms of cloth.

The chiefs of two villages came on board. Nako called them both kings, though the dominions of each do not exceed ten huts. They brought trifling presents, with one exception—a very handsome yellow girl—and they were much mortified at finding she would not be accepted, in which we thought the *beauty* also participated. A large pelerine was given to envelope her unappreciated charms, and to instil into her mind some foreign notions of modesty.

In a walk along the shore we passed many courses

of lava, which had descended from the mountain to the sea, countless ages ago. The soil of decomposed basalt, &c., was exceedingly rich, but only very partially cultivated. We saw some "gentlemen's houses," as Nako called them. All were dirty and wretched, without even the most remote pretensions to comfort or neatness. A small fetiche house for some departed hero showed a slight attempt at ornament.

We had some heavy rains here, which we understood to be frequent, and the breezes were very cool. Although a lee shore to the prevalent winds, they are never strong, and the mountain was supposed to be a shelter from the force of the tornado in its usual direction. However, in the night a very heavy one came on, *not* from the mountain, but along shore from the north, bringing the dangerous rocky point Mokali under our lee, with a heavy surf breaking on it. Another anchor was immediately dropped, and the steam got up; but the squall soon passed off, although the first gust was very severe. There was very vivid lightning, but no thunder. Thus tho mountain, instead of being a shelter, merely gives a different direction to the tornado, which is generally from the north-east. This is therefore an unanticipated danger on this coast, which has otherwise a constant "saucy sea."

May 17*th*.—We got under weigh at daylight, and ran back to our favourite Bay of Amboises. The point nearest to Mokali to the south-east, is called

Isongoh, with a town near it—Isambeh; the next, Limboh, being the north-west point forming the Bay of Amboises, with a town called Batoko. To the north-west of Mokali the first point is Divongoh; the next Enyangeh, with a town of the same name near the Rumbia river, which Nako said is not so large as the Màdiba-ma-Dualla or Cameroons; it is navigable only to Batondo.

Being desirous of visiting the singular rocky islet called the Pirate Island, with a view, if possible, to establish a friendly disposition with its wild inhabitants, Nako was landed with a bottle of rum for the chief, as an assurance of friendship, and an invitation to him to come on board. After much hesitation, he sent his "mate," who said he would gladly have visited us before, but he was afraid of the white men. Others soon followed in their canoes, and brought pigs, &c., and traded freely.

Captain Allen then went on shore with Commander Ellis of the 'Soudan,' and Lieutenant Sidney the surveying officer, who took a set of angles for the different points in the bay. The landing-place was at one spot only, a little sandy point at the foot of the highest part of the island, which rises precipitously, and with a wild confusion of huge fragments of rock, strewn about. Amongst them the canoes were hauled up, and partly concealed. We passed round to the other side of the island, where the perpendicular cliffs form a little pebbly bay, in which the surf beats in-

cessantly. Here we looked in vain for a path leading to the summit, or inhabited part, which was already covered with black heads anxiously watching our

progress. Two *kings* met us, and showed a narrow ledge, which seemed to be perfectly inaccessible except to goats. They were desired to lead the way, and we followed up what appeared to be the edge of a basaltic dyke, where hands were as much in requisition as feet. We scrambled up, however, as fast as their more practised *Majesties*, to the great admiration of the crowd on the summit. It was rather a nervous feat, as one false step would have dashed us to atoms. We never, in all our mountain rambles, had seen such a path, hardly even among those where the wild goat derides his pursuers. The first

level spot we reached, corresponded with the rude ascent. It was not more than ten feet wide, with a sheer precipice on either side—a sort of isthmus dividing the highest point of the island,—a steep acclivity which might be a citadel—from the part inhabited. Here we were met by the principal man at the head of the whole population.

Our reception was not very ceremonious, and after the first display of curiosity, and the discussion of the object of our visit, they allowed us to wander about perfectly unmolested. On mentioning the subject of King William's "bad bob," they declared he had no authority over them, and that they were determined to maintain their independence: with regard to his son, all said that he was neither killed by a gun nor by a cutlass, but "God took him."

The mother or woman who had charge of the child told us he was burned by accident.

The appearance of the town is what might be anticipated from such an approach. The surface of the island is so confined and uneven, that the huts, of the meanest description, are huddled together wherever there is an available spot, and seem almost piled one on another. They were swarming with children, goats, dogs, pigs, &c., and blackened by smoke. There is not the smallest space for cultivation, and but scanty browsing for the numerous goats.

The people of this and the other Amboise Islands

Pirate Islands

In the Bay of Amboise

are apparently of the same tribe as the Bimbians, but they are somewhat taller, and more muscular, especially about the lower extremities. The teeth are filed much in the same way as their neighbours; the eyes are bright, quick, and restless, expressive both of distrust and determination. Their abrupt and resolute demeanour shows how little they have associated with Europeans, and how much influence is exerted on their character, by the state of hostility in which they live with the people on the mainland. They subsist chiefly by fishing; exchanging the produce of the sea for vegetables, bananas, yams, &c., with their neighbours, who meet them at a sort of neutral spot on the main, where a market is held. That they are not wanting in the necessaries of life is evident in their robust and healthy look, which may also be influenced in some measure by the dryness and superior salubrity of their island homes. Water is the most scarce article; and excepting such trifling quantities as are left by the showers, in the small natural excavations in the rocks, they are dependent on the springs of the adjacent coast. Their language is a dialect of the Dualla, having but slight differences, and these principally in the pronunciation. They have no tradition of their origin; but some pages of their past and future history may be read in the physical nature of the island, which doubtless was at no distant period joined to the mainland, forming a promontory similar to one at the south-east side of the

bay, as it is directly opposite to, and not far distant from, a precipitous spur of the Cameroons mountain of the same formation. The narrow channel between them is shallow, and the numerous fragments at the contiguous end of the island prove that the process which caused the dismemberment, is still going on; while nine fantastic little islets or "needles," lying in the same line of direction, some almost like pinnacles, cut in at the water line, and "nodding to their fall," and three of them perforated by the incessant action of the sea, forming irregular arches, through which the surf chafes and expends its not idle fury, show that the Pirate Island was originally much larger, perhaps connected with the island Damèh, which is in the same line; and the ridge of shallow water between, justifies the idea, that the restless Atlantic has effected a physical as well as a moral separation between the inhabitants, which were probably of the same family.

> "Mountains interpos'd,
> Make enemies of nations; which, had else
> Like kindred drops, been mingled into one."

The rock of which Abobbi or Pirate Island is composed, offers very little resistance to the action of the sea, beating incessantly at its base: it seems to be a compact mass of volcanic ashes with basaltic dykes. The little isthmus before alluded to is very nearly cut through, and the singular destiny of these poor islanders is easily divined; a generation not remote will see their "fatherland" swept from under

them. Nature will work more sure destruction than the vengeance of King William of Bimbia.

Damèh, the outer island, is of more durable materials, on which, although more exposed, the action of the sea has little effect, and it lashes its rocky sides with such ceaseless rage, that a landing can only be effected with difficulty at one spot at the inner end.

From this point the land rises in a central ridge, terminating at the outer end in a bold rocky eminence about one hundred and fifty feet high, with some trees and sufficient soil for a garden; as there is also, on either slope of the island. Beyond this bold point the sea boils and frets incessantly, covering a large expanse with foam, though outside what seems to be a vortex, the water is as tranquil as in a lake.

The habitations are in the middle part of the island, and are built in a style very superior to those of Abobbi, forming an irregular street on the highest part of the ridge; the sloping sides affording browzing to numerous goats. There is no cultivation, and except in a pool at the outer end,—nearly dry,—we saw no water, this necessary of life being principally brought from the main land. The inhabitants were very civil, and followed us about everywhere, but the least thing would frighten them away. Every morning and evening we had visits from the people, who brought off fish of various kinds: one a small and well flavoured species allied to *Sphyræna*, with a very elongate lower jaw, tipped with scarlet and black. Empty bottles were in the

greatest demand, probably for the purpose of carrying water; needles were also much in request, for what use we could scarcely surmise, as they have no clothing to sew; still the outcry was always "Dundokki! dundokki! Needles! needles!" We also bought some goats and pigs from them, which they seemed very unwilling to part with.

Between Damèh, and the promontory forming the south-east side of the Bay, lies the beautiful island, Mòndoleh; rising abruptly from the sea to the height of about two hundred feet. It is steep on all sides, especially to the west, not too much so, however, for the growth of magnificent trees; such as the bombax, African-oak, eamwood, iron-wood, &c., festooned with orchidaceous plants in great variety, and intermixed with an impenetrable tangle of low bushes. The surface—of little extent—is undulating, or of a "saddle-back" form; covered with the richest soil, of decomposed basalt, and with very little labour yields yams, plantains, cocoa-nuts, &c., and might be made very productive. There are few inhabitants.

From the summit the views through the openings between the trees are exceedingly picturesque; the shores of the bay, on one side, backed by the stupendous Mongo-ma-Lobah, or Cameroon mountains, rising at once from the sea to the elevation of about 13,000 feet; on the other, the rival Peak of Fernando Po, 11,000, in the distance; in fact these grand objects, together with the richly wooded promontories, the

islands and the tranquil sea, combine to form one of the finest panoramas.

Mòndolch possesses a great advantage over the other islands in several springs of water, which though scanty, would—from being perennial—afford an abundant supply, if economized by tanks. The temperature of these, 77° of Fahrenheit, while the air was at 83°, shows that their sources are in the loftier regions of the mountain*.

* This island—Mòndoleh—is principally basalt, a rock composed of felspar, hornblende, and magnetic iron ore: with porphyritic crystals of basaltic hornblende embedded in it, of an amygdaloid texture; the pores elongated horizontally,—filled with mesotype, either in crystals, or in compact masses of crystalline character, or with a green earthy matter, or with some other spathic mineral: the last mentioned exhibiting crystalline forms of the hexagonal system, as, rhomboedrons with elongated hexagonal axes, combined with others of turned,—or of shortened axes. This combination may be possibly new.

Sometimes the crystals are arranged in kidney-shaped groups, indicated by the sulphuret of iron, but in such a manner, that each specimen can be distinguished and examined in respect of its crystallization.

In the higher parts of the island the amygdaloidal texture of the basalt ceases, and it seems to be of a more solid character with shivery cleavage; crystals of basaltic hornblende more distinct are embedded in it and few crystals of olivine. These formations are intersected by a second kind of basalt in vertical veins from two to four feet in breadth, running east and west.

The rock is quite solid, of a rather deep blue colour, with embedded crystal of basaltic hornblende and olivine. The separation assumes a columnar character in a horizonal position and hexagonal form.

A minute examination of the basalt discloses evidences of different periods of cooling; as, on the sides of the vein it is quite compact

At the north-eastern angle of the head of the bay, a little stream falls in, but there is no landing for boats on account of the surf, being completely open to the set from south-west. There is a market to which the natives of the island go in canoes.

The chief of a village situated on the hill, which we have said was formerly joined in all probability to the

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and solid like rock of a single structure; as limestone. At a distance of four inches within, it has pores of considerable size. The middle of the vein is of a more granulous structure, extremely rich in embedded crystals of basaltic hornblende.

The contact of the vein with the amygdaloid basalt has operated a great change in the latter. The crystalline alters to a metamorphose character, so that the massive basalt has the appearance of conglomerate; pieces of it like slag being combined in different sizes by an earthy substance, coloured by oxide of iron of a fine texture.

The heat of the basalt at the time of its appearance at the surface, must have been very great, since its effect is observable to a distance of more than six feet. Several veins run parallel to one another at short distances, which may be seen most frequently at the north and south parts of the island, and which may account for its saddle-back outline.

On the western side, where the heat operated with the greatest intensity, not only has it destroyed the older deposits, but separate veins are no longer traceable,—the columnar structure alters to a coarse granular character like kokolite, the crystallanic solid changes to a metamorphose granulous texture due to heat and algidity.

If the whole surface of this island could be carefully examined, it would afford a fine field for observing the laws of operation in this laboratory of nature.

The similarity of the geological character of the islands Fernando Po, Prince's, St. Thomas', Rollas, and Annobone, indicates a line of volcanic action in that direction with an offset at an angle of 90° at Ascension.—M. Roscher's *Geological Journal.*

islands Abobbi and Damèh, sent an invitation to Captain Allen, who landed with Commander Ellis. On our way up, we met large parties of men with cutlasses, clearing the road of grass and underwood, while the women were preparing for our reception, by sweeping their huts and clearing the square of weeds. Although the houses were neither large, nor commodious, there was an appearance of neatness about them. The "Chief of the woody hill," is said to be rich in fourteen wives, thirteen children, and about five hundred people, besides many goats and some cows. Our early visit,—profiting by the deliciously cool land-wind,—had taken him rather by surprise, as he was dressing to receive us; the most important part of his toilet, being the arrangement of a Union Jack, which Mr. Beecroft had given him and which he wore as a kilt. We were much pleased with his great civility.

The soil on the summit is of the richest description. But the villages have no water except at the foot of the hill, where a delicious stream gushes out from rocks, a considerable distance along the margin of the sea. Our Sappers cleared them away, so as to enable the people to fill their casks. This slight operation will be of advantage to the natives, and a very little trouble in blasting the rock would make an excellent watering-place.

In the woods adjacent to this locality, we shot some of the pretty rufous-necked king-hunters; the large grey-headed bush shrike; the Senegal swallow;

some half-collared doves; and a new species of plantain-eater—the *Corythaix macrorynchus*—the greater part of the plumage on the breast and neck is fine green, the back dark blue, with crimson and black wings—a white stripe extends behind the eye; the crest is green, with a thin line of black, margined over all with purple. We were so fortunate as to procure from the same tree three specimens, each having the crest in a different state; in one it was simply green, in another green, with a black margin; in the third as described above. In all other respects they had the same plumage; we have reason to believe they have been divided into distinct species, although it is quite clear to us, they were merely of different ages.

May 20th.—We completed our survey of the bay, by taking lines of sounding in every direction with the 'Wilberforce' and 'Soudan.' We then paid another visit to Bimbia, and on this occasion went with the vessel into the little strait, and anchored abreast of the pretty amphitheatre of villages; but the everlasting swell finds its way even into this apparently sheltered nook, and breaks at low water on a shoal half way across the channel from Bimbia Island.

Some of the officers went on shore for the purpose of procuring specimens of natural history. On approaching the abode of the Bimbia *monarch*, he was observed striding to and fro, under a verandah, in a furious passion, evidently "nursing his wrath to keep it warm" for the "Cappy." As each officer passed

the spot, he called out in a loud tone, "King Will, no will let." "King Will, no will let." King Will, make bob." "Too much bad bob." The cause of all this was elucidated on Captain Allen's landing soon afterwards, and going to the Palace, where King William was found in a humour to show off yet further the royal displeasure.

He was dressed in a long cotton coat, on which Captain Allen unluckily complimented him, as it afterwards proved to be a tender subject. He replied in a haughty manner, "No! he no be good coat, he very wow, wow—bad—coat. King William plenty angry; got bad bob for you. What for you go buy goat, sheep, pig, from that *dam* bushman? Plenty bad bob for you." Captain Allen thought it necessary to assume even a higher tone than he had, and scolded him in well-affected rage for his presumption. "How dare you speak to the captain of the Queen of England's man-of-war ship in that fashion? Who made you king? You were a 'small boy' when Kokliko (Colonel Nicolls) came here and made you a 'strong man,' and now you dare to speak to me of 'bad bob?' I came to you to buy goats, and you sell them 'plenty dear,' I go to the bushman and he sells them to me 'plenty cheap.' Take care you don't make me angry, that will be 'too much bad bob' for you."

The wrath of the savage instantly abated, and he became perfectly humble. He was beyond measure

delighted to find that "many-tongued rumour" had misinformed him of our having given a military coat and epaulettes to a mere "bush king."

On asking Billeh whether he would be willing to receive a missionary, he passionately exclaimed, "No! I no will, that's humbug palaver." He spoke violently on the subject for some time; his broken English was difficult to understand, but we gathered that he would not have any one to interfere with his authority; nor to introduce customs, which might be repugnant to the feelings of his people.

He renewed the subject of the Bobbi people, and said he would stop some of their canoes until his "bob" was settled; but promised that he would not make war for the purpose of killing any one: for which concession he was promised a uniform jacket and other things. Two of his wives were sent to receive the presents, as he said he could not trust his son. These were both natives of Dualla, one a very good-looking girl, the other a sister of A'Lobah—King Bell. After giving the presents, and some articles of dress for themselves, they became so importunate that we were obliged to dismiss them rather unceremoniously—for royal personages.

The villages lining the shore of this beautiful little strait are generally neat and clean. Each has a headman, and they are all *kings* or *dukes*. The government seems to be a patriarchal commonwealth, their subjects being principally their families and slaves.

John King explained the succession: his father was the head chief: he left three sons, Nako, John King, and Billeh: Nako assumed the chief authority; on his death, John King waived his right in favour of King Billeh. The latter had frequently declared that whichever of his sons proved to have the "best head" would succeed him. He seemed very fond of a pretty little prattling boy, about four years of age. He "liked him plenty;" said he always slept with him, and he "might be king if he had a good head." From this it would appear that the chieftainship is elective. The place is certainly rising in importance, and they are very anxious to have ships to come and trade with them in palm oil, of which they have abundance, as well as wood. Duke Martin said he had four hundred large jars of oil.

We found the night insufferably hot here, giving palpable evidence of the superiority of the climate of the Bay of Amboises, where we had a pure and prolonged sea-breeze, or a cool land-wind, every night; insuring a calm and refreshing sleep.

Sunday, May 22nd.—We had signified that we did not wish to be disturbed. John King came on board, but he was exceedingly well behaved, and, so far from being importunate like his brother, he would not even receive a small present, because we had told him it was our Lord's day of rest. However, he said he would let us know his wants after he had sent on board some fine bullocks, which he had procured for

us. On the following day he was as good as his word, and sold three at "one price,"—without haggling.

Our former prompt departure, and the scolding he had just received, brought Billeh to his senses, as he also let us have some goats at "one price," that is, without first asking thrice as much as he intended to take. He sent four men with muskets to try and shoot bullocks for us; but he said they were "too much wild; they savy too much when white man comes, and run far away into the bush." They at length succeeded, and brought a small one on board which had been shot with broken bits of brass.

At the back of the *palace* were numerous huts, ranged in two long lines, the dwellings of the chief's wives, children, and slaves. The former came out immediately on our entering the court-yard, and commenced begging for everything they saw. They were neither remarkable for decency of manners nor appearance. The natural ugliness of their features was increased by a dark green pigment, which, however, was distributed on their faces, and other parts of their person, with such care as to prove that they thought it had a contrary effect. Some of the children were pretty; one especially, a daughter of the Chief, named Luchinga, was a perfect miniature Venus, though she was not more than seven years of age. In one large hut, we could see through the bars at the entrance a number of females of all ages, who were doubtless slaves, from

the authoritative way in which the pretty little boy,—the Chief's favourite son,—ordered them about.

Landing on another occasion we found the Chief lying on his bed very unwell, and begging most piteously for some of the white man's medicine. We had a proof, however, how little the comforts of civilization,—according to our ideas,—are appreciated by the natives of a tropical climate. Although this Chief prided himself on his connexion with the white men, and the multitude of good things he possessed from their country, he was lying in the lower part of his house, without flooring, though he had excellent rooms above, which, with the numerous and valuable articles of European manufacture, he merely kept for show, or "to make him strong." We had difficulty, in scrambling over lumber of different kinds, to reach the damp and dark corner where he was lying. He had, nevertheless, a decent bed and pillow.

The land near the town of Bimbia is tolerably well cultivated, but the dense underwood which spreads so rapidly and luxuriantly, makes it a difficult matter to keep any space properly cleared. Many fine timber trees grow a little distance off, and some blanched yet stalwart trunks, visible here and there, bore evidence to the destroying influence of the electric fluid, which is said to be more frequently dangerous here, than at almost any other part of the coast.

There is one irregular street, kept tolerably clean,

and a number of straggling huts. All the dwellings are small square clay-built edifices, thatched with the sedgy *cyperus* and the useful palm-leaf. The places more constantly appropriated to sleeping in have a small aperture, just large enough to enter, over which a grass-mat is suspended internally. Most of the natives have various European articles hung up about their dwellings, the amount of which is a fair index of individual wealth; but as light is as scrupulously kept out as if a window-tax were levied among them, we had great difficulty in ascertaining what they were. Palm-oil is the staple commodity of export, with a few elephants' teeth, brought from the Balùng country. Live stock, goats, sheep, pigs, and poultry abound, and form a source of no little wealth to the possessors; time is, however, of so little value to these people, that they think nothing of passing backwards and forwards several days, before they arrange the sale or purchase of a single goat, and quite exhaust an Englishman's patience, especially as a preliminary *dash* is expected before commencing business of the most trifling nature. When not engaged in barter, fishing appears to be the most common employment; and, as the fish is both abundant and good, it forms a large portion of their food, together with plantains, instead of yams, which are not so much cultivated. That the slave trade has been actively prosecuted here, and is still more or less so, is evident,

from the number of persons who speak a little Spanish or Portuguese.

Although the language of Bimbia closely resembles the Dualla or Cameroons, the physical characters of the people are somewhat different; the Bimbians being for the most part small in stature, but muscular. The hands and feet are large; the lower jaw is prognathous or protruding; the eyes are bright, but full of cunning and avarice; and the countenance generally expressive of bad feelings, which subsequent inquiries into their dispositions confirmed. The mode of filing the teeth very much down, leaving a wide space between, so as to have them long and sharp, adds not a little to their disagreeable looks, and is apt to raise unpleasant suspicions as to cannibal propensities. Many of them have squares tatooed over the abdomen, resembling the scarifications of cupping, and others have triangular marks in the temples, not unlike the Krus, with whom they seem rather anxious to *fraternize*.

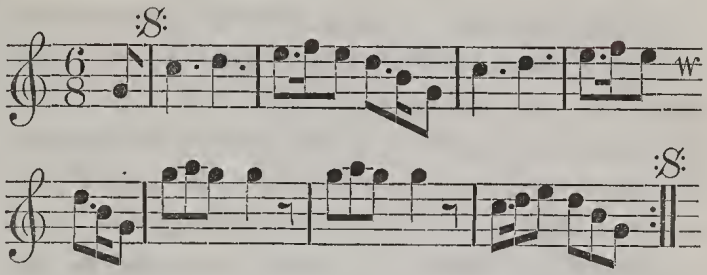
Their religious superstitions are much the same as in other parts of the coast, and said also to be accompanied with human sacrifices. On the demise of a chief or any great man, more or less of the property is left in the house, which is abandoned and allowed after an interval to go to decay, We saw in the deserted hut reported to have been occupied by the late chief, a number of utensils and earthenware articles,

which the superstitious fears of the natives prevented their appropriating, although quite exposed.

Nothing can exceed their absurd credulity in the magical powers of European medical men. They believe white doctors can kill or cure almost with a look, and we have often observed them to turn away in apparent fright, if any of the medical officers looked steadfastly at them; sometimes covering their faces, they would jump overboard, calling out, "No make me white, no make me white, doc'or;" nor could all our reasoning shake this belief; subsequently when we found it difficult to keep them from crowding the decks and loitering about instead of concluding their trade "palavers," it was only necessary to hint at the "doc'or," and they would disperse quickly enough.

They are fond of music, and as well as the noisy dance-provoking tom-tom, they have flutes made out of reeds, with three apertures; they blow into the upper one, and by pressing the thumb and fore-finger on the lower two with different degrees of firmness, they contrive to play some very sweet though simple airs. They have also a sort of harp, made in the shape of a bow, of light wood, tightly strung, with the hard fibre of some creeping plant; this is placed inside of the teeth, and breathed on with more or less force, as with the common Jew's harp, and by striking the chord with a light piece of stick, the sounds are produced.

The subjoined is a common and very favourite air:—



Our position outside the Bimbia Strait was in four fathoms, with the outer point N.W. about half a mile. Inside we anchored in two and a half fathoms at low water, with the King's White House W. $\frac{3}{4}$ S., and the south point of Bimbia Island S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. We were, however, rather too near a shoal to the eastward of us on which the surf breaks at half tide. A cable's length more to the N.E. would be a more sheltered berth. It is high water here at full and change at 8·54 P.M., the rise and fall six and a half feet.

Lieutenant Sidney, the Assistant-Surveyor, made a little examination of the strait, and we searched for a rock said to lie south of Bimbia Point, but without success.

The current between Fernando Po and the mainland is sometimes rapid, but on anchoring 'mid channel, to try it during the night, we found it almost imperceptible: it is stronger on both shores.

On the 24th of May we returned in the 'Wilberforce'

to Clarence Cove, 'Soudan' having preceded us. We found there Her Majesty's brig 'Rapid.' Lieutenant Earle reported that, in compliance with Captain Allen's wishes, he had "communicated with Mr. Hope at Benìn, who attached no credit whatever to the report either of the murder of Mr. Carr, or of any disaster or ill treatment of the persons composing the model farm, by the natives, as he conceived that had it been true, he must have heard of it from the traders frequenting the Benìn." At the village of Akassa, in the Rio Nun, "they positively deny the murder of Mr. Carr, as also any knowledge of the persons composing the model farm."

In crossing the bar of the Nun to make this inquiry, Lieutenant Earle informed us that his boat was unfortunately swamped and lost, with one of the crew. A valuable life had thus been sacrificed in the search after a person who had so imprudently risked his own; and Captain Allen rejoiced that he had not placed his whole crew in jeopardy by attempting such a fruitless search among the swamps of the Niger, where no information could be had from the inhabitants; who, if even they knew the fact, would be interested in concealing it, and would, moreover, have been very likely to mislead, in the hope of a richer booty in the ship; being doubtless well aware, that if she should be aground for any length of time in that intricate labyrinth of creeks, the climate would soon leave them in undisturbed possession.

Our hopes of receiving instructions from England were again disappointed.

Some letters and newspapers, however, came by Her Majesty's ship 'Iris,' which left Ascension on the 10th April. The 'Albert' was still there, and the crew, we heard, had suffered much from dysentery. In a private note to Captain Allen, Captain Foote expressed his opinion that we ought not to ascend the river without further instructions from Government.

We found the Government stores belonging to the Expedition had been much injured, owing to the leaky state of the buildings they had been placed in. A survey was held, and they were carried up the hill to houses in some degree in a better state of repair.

In a beautiful walk a little way inland we met a remarkably fine intelligent young native, who said his name was Boku Glorio, son of Old Glorio, who likewise rejoiced in the name of "Cut-throat." He professed to "like" us very much, but we perceived that his affection diminished notably, when informed we were not in the habit of carrying a dram-bottle. He said he was a Christian man, and was going to see his friend the missionary, who had taught him; and that he knew "God had made him altogether, and the skin of him too." He had only one wife,—a very young girl. Although his costume was not very *recherché*, according to our ideas, he was evidently well satisfied with himself. His waist, legs, and arms, were encircled by

many strings of pieces of white shells; his hair, abundantly plastered with red earth and palm-oil, was surmounted by a grass hat, with the red tail feathers of the parrot, and fastened on his head in a jaunty style by a piece of iron. With much reluctance he sold his hat for some tobacco, but could hardly be prevailed on to exchange the fastening, for a handsome plated meat-skewer. To his walking-stick were attached small calabashes, of which he explained very dramatically the use. One was for drinking their favourite topi, or palm-wine; he put himself in an attitude, and smacked his lips, as if in enjoyment of wine of the finest vintage. Another was cut in half, and served as a horn for communicating with his companions when hunting in the woods. We once heard a man at "Cut-throat's" village blow a fine blast with the *barrel of a fowling-piece* which had burst at the breech.

Young Glorio's religious enthusiasm does not appear to have become general among the Edeeyahs; and until more active exertions are used for their spiritual improvement, we fear they will prefer their own pagan rituals, which combine pleasure with duty. Thus, after leaving him, we stumbled on four of his countryman, who were enacting a sort of fetiche dance, and the copious perspiration which bedewed their faces, testified to their active zeal. They were covered with dried palm leaves and twining convolvuli, and their bodies, where visible, were more than usually bedaubed with red and yellow clay. They first began to

stamp on the ground, changing the feet very regularly and simultaneously, then raising their spears

on high, they sprung backwards and forwards, as if about to attack each other, yet observing a certain precision in all their motions. Each step was accompanied with a sort of pavior's grunt—eh—eh! eh—eh!—and with the rustling noise of the palm leaves, was as discordant in sound as their, performance was wild in appearance. Having danced until they were quite exhausted, they approached, and saluted us with their usual kindly expression, "bu-bi" (friend).

As we had learned that the 'Peruvian,' a Liverpool ship, bound homewards, was lying in George Bay, on the north-west side of Fernando Po, we went thither for

the purpose of sending dispatches and letters by her. In coasting along the western side of the Fernando Po, the form of the vast crater of the volcano, which threw up this beautiful island, is distinctly seen. The dense forests and luxuriant vegetation which cover the island, and clothe the sides of the mountain to the very summit, with the modification of altitude, attest the quiescent state in which the volcano has remained for ages. It is doubtful whether it be perfectly extinct, as smoke is said to be occasionally seen; but the highest part composed evidently of volcanic ashes, has been so decomposed, that it is mantled with grass.

On approaching this noble bay, we were deceived by the appearance of the enormous trunks of the bombax, or silk-cotton trees, which looked in the distance like the white sails of vessels, "hull down." One might almost have supposed a numerous fleet was there, with canvas loosened to dry.

George's Bay is much more extensive than Clarence; open to the north-west wind, which however seldom blows strong; the scenery on all sides is remarkably fine, and it would be an excellent place for ships to rendezvous, but that the water is too deep for anchorage, except close in by the shore. The country around appeared to be clearer of underwood than at most other points, and the view of the Peak is particularly grand.

We found the natives at George's Bay, civil and inoffensive, as in all other parts of this singular island.

Their habitations are indeed the rudest of the rude, being nothing more than a coarse mat of palm-leaves thrown over four uprights, and open to all the winds of heaven. A little block of wood for a pillow, an earthen pot to boil yams, and a rude wooden pipe for smoking, were the only articles of comfort or luxury, any of them seemed to possess. Yet they looked happy and healthy, and proffered us a portion of their simple fare, as also eggs, which are never eaten by them, on account of some religious prejudice. The yams are abundant, and probably the finest in Africa, forming the chief article of food to the unsophisticated Edeeyah.

Occasionally they have as a "bonne bouche," a stew of bush-rat, porcupine, snake, or venison. Fish is also plentiful at certain seasons, particularly a species of *Clupea*, about the size of an English sprat, and having very much its flavour. During some months, the land-crab is a favourite luxury, and the capture of them affords employment late in the evening, at which time they venture out from their habitations in the sand. Towards dusk there were numerous lights moving about on the beach, where the "Bubis" were actively engaged catching their prey for supper. With the exception of such spirituous liquors as the natives receive in exchange for their oil; topi, or palm-wine, is the common beverage. This exudes from the palm-tree on incision; is of a pleasant slightly acid flavour: very wholesome in the morning when first drawn, but more or less intoxicating towards evening, according to its state of fermentation. A tumblerful of it was

frequently given to each of our men at daylight. About three or four pints may generally be extracted each day, but it gradually ceases after the seventh or eighth. The total quantity for each tree, averages about four gallons, but this depends on the size and age.

A party of disaffected Krumen and Fishmen, who left the employment of the West African Company, had taken up their abode in George's bay, and had caused the natives much trouble, stealing their yams, canoes, &c., some fighting had in consequence resulted, in which the aggressors were beaten and some killed. An officer was sent to inform them that they had better return to their work at Clarence, and that if they continued to harass the natives, they were not to expect British protection, in case they were retaliated on by the suffering aboriginals.

We had a visit from two Edeeyah hunters, bringing various specimens of monkeys, squirrels, &c., &c., which they had killed with slings. They were accompanied by their wives, two of the most beautifully formed and symmetrical figures we have ever seen. Notwithstanding the disfigurement of the face by large incisions, and the clay-bedaubed hair, they looked remarkably pretty, nay, even interesting; their gentle and modest demeanour, contrasting strangely, with the almost naked and unadorned state of their persons.

These were first wives, and had only recently come forth from the seclusion which they are obliged to undergo, prior to the public acknowledgment of the marriage contract among the tribe.

As we had often heard that the natives could hold musical dialogues even at great distances, by means of little gourd flutes, (*vide* the plate of African instruments), we prevailed on them to separate, while by an interpreter one of them was desired to convey certain sentences, to those at a distance. To our surprise we found, on cross-examination that everything had been perfectly understood. They said they could communicate with one another, even at the distance of some miles, where the locality was favourable to the resonance of the sounds. This facility of musical correspondence is not confined to these people alone, since that distinguished traveller, the late Mr. Bowdich, mentions a similar practice among the Ashantis, and he was also informed of its existence in the district of Accra. That the Cameroons people have also tutored their hearing with a similar result, we had an instance in the pilot Glasgow. He was in Captain Allen's cabin one day, answering some queries relating to the river; suddenly he became totally abstracted, and remained for a while in the attitude of listening. On being taxed with inattention, he said, "You no hear my son speak?" As we had heard no voice, he was asked how he knew it. He said, "Drum speak me, tell me come up deck." This seemed to be very singular, so Captain Allen desired him to remain below, and privately sent several messages to the performer in the boat alongside, who executed them by a variety of taps on his wooden drum; and these Glas-

gow interpreted in a way that left no doubt of his having understood perfectly all that the "drum spoke." He also said they could communicate by this means at very great distances, by the "war-drum," which is kept in every village to give and repeat these signals; so that there is intimation of danger long before the enemy can attack them. We are often surprised, to find the sound of the trumpet so well understood in our military evolutions; but how far short that falls of the result arrived at by those untutored savages.

This method of communication, is no doubt employed by slave dealers, to give notice of the movements of our cruisers.

Having found, that the steering compass in the 'Wilberforce' was very much affected by the local attraction, owing to the difference in the magnetic intensity between these regions and the latitude of England, where it was corrected; several days were devoted on our return to Clarence Cove, to swinging the ship to the different points of the compass, and replacing the magnetic bars or correctors. The cardinal points were made exact, but N.E. remained very refractory, the box of soft iron having little or no effect.

Several ships were communicated with, in the hopes of receiving letters and dispatches from England, as we began to be very impatient and uneasy at not receiving instructions, and the time was near at hand when we ought to re-enter the Niger, or abandon the enterprise.

CHAPTER XI.

Visit to Prince's Island—A Ride to Santa Anna—View up the Porto—Kru boat dance—New Case of Fever—Return to Clarence—Awaiting Orders—Instructions from England expected—Salubrity of the Bay of Amboises—Preparations to re-ascend the Niger—Captain Allen's proposed Plan of Operations—Timely arrival of H.M.S. vessel 'Kite'—The Expedition ordered to England—H.M.S. vessel 'Kite' ordered to take the crews home by Captain Allen—'Wilberforce' sent up to the Model Farm with a few officers and a black crew—Visit to the grave of our companions—The 'Kite' sails for England—Captain Allen's illness—Arrival of the Expedition at Plymouth.

June 5th.—Captain Allen being desirous of ascertaining whether the senior officer on this coast had received any communication from Government, we sailed in the 'Wilberforce' for Prince's Island, having sent 'Soudan' to lie in the healthy bay of Amboises during our absence of a few days.

The usual head-wind prevailed on this little passage, and though the thermometer was at 81°, the weather felt pleasantly cool, proving that there is considerable

advantage in being habituated to the high temperature of the tropies*.

June 7th.—We arrived at West Bay, Prince's Island, and were disappointed at finding no communication from Captain Foote. We sailed again, and went in three hours round to Porto St. Antonio, the chief place on the island, in order to get some fresh provisions, as nothing was to be procured at West Bay, owing to the absence of Madame Ferreira.

Captain Allen waited on the Governor, who thanked him for the honour through his Captain of the Guard, but said he had fever, and could not see him. We understood that he always made that excuse.

The Captain of the Guard having laid aside his dignity, and the laced jacket with which he received us in the Governor's empty saloon, pestered us to buy fowls and eggs of *him* exclusively, at a very dear rate.

We called on poor Madame Ferreira, who was confined to her own house, on the charge—formerly alluded to—of having been concerned in the slave-trade. She was suffering much annoyance, but declared her innocence of the accusation.

* Before leaving England, Captain Fitzroy, R.N., had strongly advised that we should pass the first season at Ascension, in order that the crews might be seasoned before entering the river.

It is perhaps to be regretted—on more accounts than one—that this plan was not adopted.

June 8th.—Early in the morning we landed, to take a ride a little way into the country with Dr. Pritchett and Mr. Lilly; we had two horses, and a beautiful little skittish mare, which without due consideration that we had no more equestrian experience than is becoming to sailors, played us various mad pranks.

Captain Allen received a kick from one, and Dr. Pritchett's horse seized Mr. Lilly by the knee, and dragged him off the mare to the ground, but neither was much hurt. The first part of our way was by a narrow and rocky, though romantic path; crossing two or three little brooks, forming a succession of gentle cascades, and overhung with a rich variety of foliage. We were a quarter of an hour too late in starting, as a heavy shower came on, while we were in the valley, where we were obliged to take shelter under a large tree, until the dripping leaves obliged us, at a gallop, to seek more impervious protection from the torrent: this was fortunately met with in a *gentleman's hovel*, very prettily situated, where we were detained some time. On resuming our journey, we very soon arrived at the summit of the ridge, where we found there had been no rain whatever, although we were afterwards informed at the town, that it had rained there heavily for four hours.

Our road was now good, along a narrow ridge of rock, through numerous plantation of coffee, cassada, &c., many of which belong to Madame Ferreira.

Vegetation seemed to riot in the utmost luxurianee of the tropies, the soil being exeeedingly fertile.

The fresh air and the riehness of the seenery made our ride one of great enjoyment. Through every opening in the magnifieent trees, we had on one side of the ridge or the other, some beautiful view.

We arrived at length at Santa Anna, the objeet of our ride. It is a house whieh formerly belonged to Madame Ferreira's father, who lived there without ever eoming down to the town, and suehis the purity of the air, that he preserved his health and his European—Portuguese—complexion. She was born here. The house and estate now belongs to her brother, who is an idiot, and it is to be sold to pay some alleged defieieneies in the father's aeeount. It was formerly the best on the island, but being of wood is fast going to deeay. The ehurch, whieh is a complete ruin,—the roof having fallen in,—was onee apparently a very neat building. The images and ornaments of the high altar are removed to a little room, and plaeed on a table, opposite to the window with a lamp suspended over it, to serve for an altar. In this humble little ehapel the priest offieiates, while his eongregation being very strict in their religious observanees, assist at the mass, on the green outside.

On one side of the house is a neat little village, inhabited by the slaves of the estate, who looked well and happy,—their labours being very light.

The view up the Porto from the neighbourhood of the house is singularly picturesque; richly wooded or cultivated hills slope down to the water's edge on either side. At the end is the town, rendered beautiful and imposing by distance. In the background are the fantastic forms of the highest mountains on the island, thickly wooded to the summit. Opposite is the Fort St. Antonio, to which also distance lends importance.

Our morning's exercise had given us an appetite, and the prospect of a ride all the way back on an empty stomach, was anything but agreeable; we therefore hinted at a boiled egg to the old negress who showed the house, judging, from some fowls we saw,

that such a thing might be within the compass of her ability. She, however, held out no hopes, except such as arose out of an apparently reluctant promise, to see if the hens had furnished the means. Such prospects we had so often found to be fallacious that we calculated but little thereon. Nevertheless, after having waited so long, it became a matter of necessity to exercise our patience a little further,—while the gossips were discussing the extraordinary event of the visit of the white men, and the still more extraordinary fact that they wanted a breakfast.

Our patience was, however, rewarded; for we were regaled with the sight of our old friend the negress, crossing the green from the village, bearing a tray, covered with a snow-white though ragged napkin, on which were some beautiful plantains, fine fish, broiled and boiled, and eggs. These, with our well-established appetites, and pure water from a calabash, formed a delicious breakfast. When it became evident to the horses,—which had been also enjoying a breakfast of fresh grass under the shade of some noble trees,—that we meditated a return to the town, they recommenced their pranks, breaking loose and galloping round the village, to the no small terror of the quiet little "niggers." When caught, they showed a decided repugnance to the saddle, and kicked most furiously, until convinced, by the application of a bamboo to their hoofs every time they lashed out, that resistance was useless.

Drawn by Capt. W. Allen R.N. Engraved by J. W. Cook

[illegible] at Prince's Island

[illegible]

Our ride back was even more agreeable, from the fineness of the weather; as although the sun shone brilliantly, it was not uncomfortably warm. Returning by a different road, we visited a quinta belonging to Madame Ferreira, of which she has many all over the island, with much land under cultivation.

On arriving at her house in the town we found an excellent breakfast had long been waiting. Besides our kind hostess, we had Madame Fretus and her two young and interesting daughters, to whom we had to make ourselves as agreeable as we could, under the disadvantage of not having a language in common.

It had been intimated to Madame Ferreira this morning, that she was no longer to be kept under restraint, though she had not the gratification of being formally absolved from the alleged charges. Neither the Governor nor the Chief Judge would interfere in her case. From this it would appear that they think they have gone too far in persecuting this unprotected woman.

This lady's residence and that of the Governor, are the only good ones in the town. The others are built of wood, raised on piles,and surrounded by spacious and heavy verandahs; causing some of those which have apparently slight supports and bad foundations, to lean over in various directions, threatening their neighbours with a visitation, as their *penchans* may lead them. The streets may lay some claim to regularity; and though the houses diminish in importance as they

ascend the valley, the upper end can boast of the principal church or cathedral.

The little stream which flows through the valley, divides into two branches before reaching the estuary, forming a miniature delta—the term is more familiar than agreeable to us—on which the principal part of the town is built.

Mr. Lilly has a neat little place, with about forty acres of land, on the south side of the estuary, which he purchased from Madame Ferreira. He politely invited some of the officers of the 'Wilberforce' to dine with him there.

In a house near our friend's we saw two young ladies, quite black, who much interested us by their really fascinating manners. Their dress was a mixture of the European and African fashions; and though a small amount of either, there was enough for grace and modesty.

We obtained some observations of magnetic dip and intensity, unfortunately on a volcanic locality, but we could not ascertain whether any basalt was near to affect the results.

On the way off to the vessel, our merry-hearted Kru paddlers amused us with one of their boat dances. At a given signal from the leading man, they jumped up simultaneously on the thwarts of the gig, pirouetted on one leg, sat down again with much agility, paddled three strokes, then mounted again, and performed the same evolutions several times, which

they went through, keeping the most exact time; but not without, as we thought, some danger of upsetting our frail bark, which had never been intended for such displays of African gymnastics; it was, however, consolatory to know from the lips of Messrs. Frying-pan and Co. that we "no could drown where Kru boy live."

Thursday, June 9th.—We sailed this day from the pretty little harbour of Porto St. Antonio. In going out, the wind was so strong against us, that we had great difficulty, with all the power of steam, in getting clear of the point, before we could bear up and make use of our sails. Returned to West Bay, where magnetic observations were made in the verandah of Madame Ferreira's house,—the same spot where some had been taken in 1834 by Captain Allen. We had here heavy rain.

10th.—In the hope that a vessel might arrive during the night, our sailing was delayed till 4 A.M., when we departed from Prince's Island to return to our position at Fernando Po, or in its vicinity. The disappointment was very great at not finding any communication from the senior officer at Prince's Island, which is the general rendezvous for the squadron.

We were reminded of our hopes and trials of last year by the death of a young man who had been sent from England as assistant-engineer to the Expedition. He was taken ill soon after he joined the 'Wilberforce,' and died after suffering a week. He could not get over his "seasoning fever," which he probably caught while waiting for us at Fernando Po; though after his attack

he had the advantage of fresh and pure breezes, as we were at sea nearly the whole time.

We made a very fair passage with the square fore-sail, assisting the steam, and our stock of wood lasted the greater part of the voyage But the weather was so cloudy, that although not far from Fernando Po, we could not make out the land before dark.

11*th.*—At daylight we were abreast of Bassapo. No vessel was lying there.

On approaching Clarence Cove, our expectations were raised by seeing a barque lying at anchor; but these proved as usual to be fallacious, it being an old slaver, the 'Golden Spring,' now a merchant-vessel.

'Soudan' arrived soon after 'Wilberforce,' according to Captain Allen's directions, and was sent back to Amboises.

June 12*th.*—There being no inducement to remain at Clarence, we sailed at 8 A.M. In order that we might obtain the earliest notice of any arrivals, the head Kruman, "Jack Smoke," was left with six of his "boys," with orders to bring immediate intelligence, and to occupy their unemployed time in cutting spars and fuel for the ship. We had beautiful weather on the passage across, and anchored in what appeared to be a very sheltered position, between the high island Mòndoleh, and the south-eastern promontory of the Bay of Amboises.

Commander Ellis said that the last few days that 'Soudan' was lying near Kieh the rollers set in very

heavily, which would render that anchorage unsafe, though otherwise apparently good.

This, however, according to Mr. Beecroft, is the worst time of the year for wind, and when it is much to the southward, it brings in a very uncomfortable swell, which in all other points of the compass is broken by the chain of islands, or the projecting points of the bay. We remained quietly here another week.

June 20th.—A delightfully cool morning. Thermometer was at 75°·5 at daylight, when we weighed and went to the watering place at Kieh, where, after

having filled our tanks, we took leave of this lovely scenery with very great regret.

On a second visit to the chief of the "woody hill," he forfeited the good impression of the first. In attempting to purchase a fine little bullock, we were quite

angry at his caprice and extortion. He had made a bill of the price, with a piece of dried banana leaf, torn into as many shreds as he required "bars," or pieces of cloth; however, we had none which suited his fastidious trade. We could not "make trade."

During our frequent visits to the Bay of Amboises, we had ample reason to be satisfied with having selected it as our principal station, while we were obliged to remain in this part waiting for orders, as the continued health of the crews of 'Wilberforce' and 'Sondan' justified the opinion that had been formed of its *comparative* salubrity. It is open to the almost constant south-west wind coming in purity across the wide Atlantic, and is backed by the lofty Cameroons Mountain, over which the land-breeze passes at night, bringing a diminished temperature, which secures a calm and refreshing sleep, and, possibly, a freedom from noxious exhalations. We experienced a few tornadoes, but in general the weather was very beautiful, without much rain. In the daytime the men were kept in activity by a variety of little incidents, occupations, and amusements to beguile the time; the vessels were moved about from one part of the bay to another, for the purpose of examination. The natives were very much alarmed on our firing at a target, especially the Chief of Abobbi, for whose peculiar edification it was, in fact, intended. While he was on board, we sent a shot whistling over the island, and made use of a craggy pinnacle sort of islet as a mark, till he begged of us to desist, saying that it kept the "sauey water" from breaking his island.

There are few places on the Coast of Africa more suitable for a settlement than the Bay of Amboises.

As usual, on returning to Fernando Po to keep the magnetic term day, all eyes watched the opening of the point forming Clarence Cove, nothing however, was to be seen there but the 'Golden Spring,' which had so often raised our hopes and disappointed them.

The time had now nearly arrived, when Captain Allen had resolved if no orders to the contrary were received, to renew the operations of the Expedition by re-ascending the Niger with 'Wilberforce' and 'Soudan.' We therefore began seriously to make preparations, by taking on board as large a quantity of coals as possible, which would enable us to pass the dangerous parts of the river without delaying to cut wood; and if, on the contrary, orders should arrive in the meantime for us to return to England, we might be able to make a long stretch homewards, before requiring another supply.

Some newspapers brought by the 'Ethiope' of the 13th and 29th of April, contained no allusion to the Expedition. The first had, a simple notice of the promotion of Captain William Allen, which, in the absence of any other motive, had the effect of deciding and rather hastening our departure. The dispatches announcing the intentions of re-entering the river, which had been sent from Ascension, on the 12th of February, having had two months to reach

England by the 13th of April, and more than two months having since elapsed, Captain Allen considered that this fact of his promotion, might be taken as some proof of the approbation of Her Majesty's Government, of the views detailed in those dispatches; he therefore resolved, much against his own personal wishes, to lose no more time, but sail immediately in prosecution of the objects of the Expedition, which a further delay might interfere with, by curtailing the period of remaining in the river.

It may be as well here to state briefly, what were Captain Allen's intentions, had not the opportune arrival of the orders from England prevented him.

On arriving at the model farm near the confluence of the two rivers, he would have left the 'Soudan' to arrange the affairs of that establishment, if necessary, and taking Commissioner Cook with him, would have proceeded at once to Rabbah; as it had been originally an object, in which all the Commissioners were agreed, to gain over if possible, to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, the chief of the Filatahs, who resides in that city. The negotiations with minor chiefs would then have been easy, as his influence is so widely extended. If time and health had permitted, he would afterwards have ascended the river Chadda, to carry out the instructions with any powerful chief—as yet unknown—who might have been found on its banks; and to add to geographical science some knowledge of that noble river, which he had

many reasons for believing to be the more important of the two,—the Niger being its tributary : and also that it may be the outlet of the Lake Chad.

By landing all the heavy and bulky articles which were not likely to be wanted in the river, we had so much lightened, and cleared the vessel, that we were able to take on board one hundred and thirty-five tons of coals. This would, on the calculation of the engineer, be sufficient for forty days of river navigation, that is, by steaming only in the day time.

Captain Allen endeavoured to arrange with Mr. Beecroft to accompany us with a cargo of coals, and to bring thirty tons more in a month, to be deposited at the mouth of the Niger. He would willingly have acceded, but stated that the plans and interests of his employer would not admit of it.

Although most of the officers and men had been anxiously looking for the return to England, and though nearly all of the men who had suffered, wished at one time to have left the vessels at Ascension, nevertheless we believe they were cheerfully disposed again to encounter the dangers of the river, in the execution of their duty, humbly relying on the wisdom and power of the Omnipotent Protector, who had suffered us to escape from them on the former occasion.

A modification of these arrangements, however, became necessary, inasmuch as Mr. Commissioner Cook decided at this time, to return to England in the

barque 'Golden Spring.' It would therefore have been advisable, in order to relieve Captain Allen from the onerous responsibility of being the sole commissioner, to have appointed Acting-commander Ellis to assist him in that office, which he would have done after leaving Fernando Po, according to the provision in Lord John Russell's instructions.

Our preparations were very nearly completed, and it was the intention of Captain Allen to have sailed for the Niger on the evening of Saturday, the 25th June; when in one moment all these plans were changed: all hands were awakened at one o'clock on the morning of the 24th, by the report that a steamer was in the offing.

The order for a boat was hardly issued, when one shoved off from the 'Wilberforce' with a mixed crew of officers and men, so great was the anxiety to obtain information as to our destiny.

A very few minutes brought Lieutenant Gooch*, the Commander of H.M.S. vessel 'Kite,' on board, who had been sent express from England, with despatches from the Colonial Office and the Admiralty, to the senior officer on the station, to stop the further proceedings of the Expedition; the officers and men of which, he was directed to forward to England by the first opportunity. He was, moreover, instructed to send one of the steamers up the Niger, with a black crew, and

* Now Captain.

a limited but requisite number of white officers, to communicate with the settlers there, to bring them and their property away, if they wished to abandon the model farm. One of the Commissioners was directed, in Lord Stanley's minute, to accompany the steamer, and decide on behalf of the proprietors of that establishment, whether it was to be continued or not; and if circumstances were peculiarly favourable, especially as to health, &c., he was authorized to proceed as far as Rabbah, in order to open a communication with that city, but he was not on any account to explore the river beyond.

After the resolution Captain Allen had with great difficulty come to, of again tempting the climate of the deadly Niger,—after the preparations he had completed, the plans he had formed, the length of time he had dwelt on them, and the hopes he had of being able, under God's providence, to carry them into execution—it was not without something like a sense of disappointment that he found in one instant all his projects entirely overturned. On the other hand, he could not but feel that these wishes were in a manner factitious, being excited by long meditation on the subject, and by a desire to perform to the utmost the duty, which had unfortunately devolved on him. He had a severe struggle in his mind throughout the night as to whether he should himself undertake the charge pointed out, or give Mr. Cook the alternative. In fine, he considered that Lord Stanley's minute was not imperative on him; that the

instructions of the Lords of the Admiralty required that the officers and men composing the Expedition should be sent home, without exempting him,—and that consequently they did not authorize him to abandon his ship's company; moreover, that those instructions decidedly stated, that volunteer officers were to be sent on that service; lastly, not only that the service was one with which he was not officially connected, namely, that of regulating the affairs of the model farm on the behalf of the proprietors of that establishment, but the wishes of those proprietors expressly pointed to Mr. Cook in the letter of their chairman; Captain Allen, therefore, guided by all these circumstances, decided on yielding the post to that gentleman; who, on the proposition being made to him, consented to undertake it, though, on subsequent consideration, he thought it advisable to decline it; and he took his departure for England in the barque, 'Golden Spring,' which vessel was about to sail.

Another difficulty arose from the fact of the absence of the senior officer, Captain Foote, to whom the Admiralty instructions were directed, and the probability that it would be a considerable time before he could visit this part of the station. Sending the 'Kite' in search of him was quite out of the question. It therefore became necessary, for Captain Allen to take upon himself, the prompt execution of their Lordships' wishes. In this he had the high gratification to find,

that he was most cheerfully seconded by the zeal of his first lieutenant, W. H. Webb, who, with a requisite number of officers*, volunteered without hesitation, for a service of almost unparalleled danger, as their sufferings had already taught them, and the result subsequently proved, by the sacrifice of two of the *limited* number.

The preparations in the 'Wilberforce' having been already nearly completed for the voyage, little was left to be done, but to fill up with coals, and to turn over the remaining officers of 'Wilberforce' temporarily to the 'Soudan,' and prepare the instructions for Lieutenant Webb, who, with his gallant little band of volunteers, lost no time in making his arrangements. Mr. Webb made his selection of forty of the best Krumen, among whom was Captain Allen's faithful Jack Smoke, who had well sustained his excellent character.

Sunday, June 26th.—The Captain performed Divine Service for the last time, to his little congregation: and all the officers were assembled at a farewell dinner at his table. The various thoughts that crowded in their minds, however, prevented all approach to cheerfulness. It was rather a mournful assemblage.

*The officers were Lieutenant W. H. Webb, Mr. J. H. R. Webb, Acting-Purser; Mr. — Hensman, Assistant-Surgeon, resident medical officer of Fernando Po; Mr. John Waddington, Boatswain; Mr. Henry Davey, Carpenter; Messrs. W. Johnston, Cross and Henry Collins, Engineers.

Wednesday, 29th.—All the arrangements having been made, the 'Kite' took 'Wilberforce' in tow, in order that the latter might enter the river with as much coal as possible. Captain Allen embarked in the 'Kite,' to see his old ship safely over the bar.

We had a strong adverse wind, so that we could only make about three and a-half knots against it.

Friday, 1st July.—In the morning we passed the Rio Bento, or St. John's, and soon after we made out the "Gate of the Cemetery," the Rio Nun, or principal navigable *embouchure* of the Niger. We observed first the "gallows-like" tree, on Point Tilana; then by opening the three points we distinctly saw the ragged tree on the Second Point, and Alburkah Island. At 11, both vessels anchored in four and a-quarter fathoms, off the mouth of the river. It was high water, and so smooth, that 'Wilberforce' might have entered at once, but some little final matters detained her till the following day. At low water a heavy tumultuous surf was seen breaking.

2nd.—The morning was excessively gloomy when the 'Wilberforce' crossed the bar to pursue her solitary route; dense black clouds, shrouded the entrance to the Niger, and seemed to be deluging it with torrents of rain.

Captain Allen watched her with intense and painful anxiety, sometimes she appeared too far to the westward towards the spit, and once he fancied she had "broached to," among the breakers, of which there

were some on the bar, although it was high-water. At length he had the gratification of seeing the ensign hoisted, the preconcerted signal of having passed the dangerous part in safety. Soon after this the vessel was lost sight of, in a heavy intervening shower of rain.

The 'Kite' weighed at 11 o'clock, and proceeded to Prince's Island, in order to obtain intelligence of the senior officer's movements—we had a strong head-wind during our passage.

July 4th.—In the evening, anchored in West Bay, Prince's Island. Found by a memorandum which had been left there, for the guidance of the cruizers, that Captain Foote, after visiting the southern part of his station, would pass a month at Ascension. In the absence therefore of the proper authority, it was incumbent on Captain Allen to make the necessary arrangements for conveying the remaining officers and men to England on his own responsibility, since it would have been incurring a fearful risk, nay almost certainty of much loss of life, to have kept them crowded in the little 'Soudan,' until the Commodore's arrival.

The only alternative was for Captain Allen to order the 'Kite' to receive all on board, and proceed homewards. In this he was borne out by the Admiralty Instructions, which authorized any vessel of the African Squadron to be devoted to this service, if none were about to sail for England. Moreover the 'Kite' was in such a defective state, that she would not long have been serviceable as a cruiser. While the peculiar

capabilities of the vessel from having been a packet, would afford accommodation for the officers, and led to the presumption that the Admiralty had such a contingency in view, in selecting the 'Kite.' On returning to Fernando Po, therefore, on the 5th July, Captain Allen ordered Lieutenant Gooch to receive on board, all the officers and men belonging to the Expedition, and to proceed at once to England.

Dispatches were left for Captain Foote, announcing this determination, and enclosing duplicates of the instructions from the Colonial Office and the Admiralty: also a request to the officers of the squadron, that they would occasionally visit the Nun branch of the Niger, in order to be able to render assistance to Lieutenant Webb, if he should require it on his return from the interior.

The Government stores belonging to the Expedition, including valuable presents for the chiefs, &c., were placed in secure houses at Clarence under the care of Mr. White, the agent for the West African Company, to be delivered over to the senior officer on the coast.

Charge of the 'Soudan' was given, with a second master's appointment, to Mr. Sturgess, who had volunteered for that service, and eleven seamen were left with him, who had been sent out from England in the 'Kite' to join the squadron.

Before leaving Fernando Po, we visited for the last time, the small locality appropriated as a burying-

ground, where so many of our brave companions had found a last resting-place. It is a little outside of the town; a narrow winding footpath leads to it, through paths of guava and other dark-leaved trees, and near it a murmuring stream pursues its downward course. On reaching the sequestered spot, we stood once more beside the lofty cotton-tree, at the broad base of which, is the tumulus marking the grave of Richard Lander. Near that enterprising traveller is deposited, all that was mortal of the talented and amiable Commander Bird Allen, and on the right and left those of Lieutenant David Hope Stenhouse and Mr. W. C. Willie, mate, while around are commingled the remains of Doctor Vogel, botanist, Mr. G. B. Harvey, master; James Wood and Horatio Collman, assistant-surgeons; W. H. Wilmett, clerk, Louis Wolf, seaman schoolmaster, Robert Milward, purser's steward, Morgan Kinson, marine, John McClintock, Peter Fitzgerald, and Christopher Bigley, stokers.

How quiet, solemn, and how full of melancholy interest did that little place appear, draped with the sombre and almost impenetrable underwood, which nature in her luxuriance had already began to throw around. 'Twas not eight months since all these our friends, companions, fellow-labourers, had been laid there, and now each mound was mantled with a vegetation which almost obscured them from view: yet still the mighty bombax, with its stupendous branches, overshadowed them, sprinkling around the silken

cotton from its pendant seeds; the broad-leaved banana, disturbed by the squirrel in his evening gambols, moved slowly to and fro; while on high the graceful palms reared their drooping plumes, and lent their trailing dependents, the parasitic *orchidaceæ*, to scatter their blossoms, and diffuse their odours, over a spot sacred to the memory of the philanthropist, the man of science, and the "friends of Africa."

July 7th.—All our preparations having been completed, we set sail for England; our thoughts, which, but a few days previously, had been cheerfully bent on the prosecution of an arduous duty, were now turned with more joyful feelings towards home, the factitious excitement having ceased to exist.

The 'Kite' touched at Sierra Leone, Bonavista, Teneriffe, Madeira, and Lisbon, to take in coals. Lisbon was the first opportunity we had, of giving intimation to Her Majesty's Government of the fulfilment of their instructions. All were in good health on the passage, with the exception of Captain Allen, whose mind being freed from the responsibility by which it had been so long absorbed, no longer supported him against the effect of the climate. He had an attack of fever, which at one time placed his life in some danger.

It is a curious coincidence with the period of attack in other cases, that it came on about the sixteenth day of his having been on shore at Sierra Leone. On arriving at Madeira he was so weak, that he was unable to walk; but the effect of mountain air in that lovely island, was almost miraculous. Mr. Veitch having kindly offered him the use of his country-house in the "Jardine"—a mark of hospitable attention, which Mr. Webster Gordon also showed by inviting him to his beautiful residence at the Monte, Captain Allen was immediately taken to the "Jardine," situated at an elevation of about 5,000 feet, in a hammock; and having been there only two nights and one clear day, on which he was able to enjoy the beauty of the scenery, his strength was so far restored, that he rode half the way down on horseback.

Lieutenant Gooch had anticipated the possibility of being ordered to bring us home; and had most

liberally and handsomely provided for it, by laying in a large stock of cabin stores of the best description. He enhanced all these advantages by the provident arrangements of a good officer, as well as the constant cheerfulness and urbane attentions, of a well-bred gentleman.

The poor 'Kite' was however a dull sailer; and we were fifty-seven days making the passage. As we approached the shores of our dear country, we were obliged to alter the original intentions of going to Portsmouth, by some little disasters which occurred to the already defective engines; and added to which, the coals in the bunkers were found to have taken fire by spontaneous combustion; some beams were even charred before it could be extinguished. We therefore put into Plymouth on the 2nd September, which was fortunate, as we found the Lords of the Admiralty there, who did Captain Allen the honour to receive him, with a very distinguished and public mark of their Lordships' approbation.

CHAPTER XI.

Lieutenant Webb's Instructions—Re-enters the Niger—Altered appearance of the River—Force of the Current—Anchor off Abòh Creek—Visit to Obi—Inquiry relative to the fate of Mr. Carr.—Obi's pretended ignorance—King Boy's statement—The hostile town—The 'Wilberforce' gets aground—People encamped on the sand-banks—Calls off Iddah—The vessel grounds again—Present to the Attàh of the Eggarahs—Intricate navigation—Vessel strikes on a concealed reef—Dangerous position—The exertions of the crew—Amada Bue visits the 'Wilberforce'—Reaches the Model Farm—Importance of divisional compartments in iron vessels—Shimaboe, the Attàh's uncle—Lieutenant Webb endeavours to hold communication with the Filatahs—Agajah, Chief of Priapì—A Letter and Present sent to the King of Rabbah—The Model Farm abandoned—Lieutenant Webb's reasons for so doing—Departure from the Confluence—Sickly condition of the crew—Proceedings at Abòh—Obi's treacherous behaviour—Attempt to seize Lieutenant Webb—Mr. Carr's supposed fate.

Saturday, July 2nd.—Lieutenant Webb having received his final orders from Captain Allen, of which the following is a copy*, the 'Wilberforce' got under

* "William Allen, Captain and Commissioner.

"Her Majesty's Steamer 'Wilberforce,' Clarence Cove, Fernando Po, 29th June, 1842.

"Sir,—Her Majesty's Government having declared that the Niger Expedition is at an end, but that one of the vessels shall be sent up

weigh, and steamed into the river, first taking leave of Captain W. Allen, with a salute and three hearty cheers. Having crossed the dangerous bar, and reached

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the river for the purpose of communicating with the model farm; and as you have volunteered for this service, I hereby appoint you to the temporary command of Her Majesty's steamer 'Wilberforce;' and it is my direction that, as soon as your preparations shall be completed, you proceed to the Nun branch of the River Niger, and that you carry into effect the wishes of Her Majesty's Government. As I have the fullest confidence in your zeal and discretion, I feel that I cannot do better than enclose copies of their Lordships' letter to Captain Foote, together with Lord Stanley's minute, strictly enjoining you to carry out the spirit of the views of their Lordships therein contained. I will only add, that it is of the utmost importance that you use every dispatch consistent with the safety of the vessel, in accomplishing the service intrusted to you; and that, although Lord Stanley permits you to communicate with Rabbah, it is only to be done under the most favourable circumstances. If, therefore, the slightest symptoms of sickness should break out among your European party, you are on no account to attempt it. In any case my opinion is, that it is not desirable to appear before Rabbah with a reduced complement of officers, and a black crew; as the natives, knowing the deadly effect which their climate has always had on us, will believe that it places them beyond the reach of white men, especially if any of your officers should be sick while there. You will observe also, that Lord Stanley, and the Lords of the Admiralty, are peremptory in commanding you not to go beyond Rabbah, nor to explore the river with Her Majesty's vessel.

"You have with you, what you consider a sufficient number of officers, and on their zeal and cordial co-operation I feel confident you may rely. At your strong instance I have appointed a third engineer, which I agree with you in thinking absolutely necessary. The Krumen are of your own selection; one of whom, Yàrriba George, the stoker, was promised his discharge when he should go up the river again. He also applied for it when I was at Rabbah, in the

the entrance of the Nun, the vessel was grounded, to repair the tail of the rudder, which having been carried away soon after leaving Fernando Po, rendered the

Alburkah. You are therefore to discharge him at any convenient place, paying him the amount of his wages in goods and cowries.

"Mr. Cook, the Civil Commissioner, having very recently altered the determination he had made to accompany you, for the purpose of attending to the interests of the proprietors of the model farm, this difficult task devolves on you; and I have no doubt you will do all in your power to comply with the wishes expressed by the Chairman of the Society in his letter to Mr. Cook. I would, however, impress on your mind the importance of deeply considering the condition in which you may find the settlers at the model farm, since much of the future good to Africa which may still be hoped to arise out of the exertions which have been made in her behalf, may depend on the decision to which you may come with respect to that establishment. At the same time I must express my conviction that those who are interested in it, will be satisfied with whatever course you may take.

"As Her Majesty has declined to accept the sovereignty, or proprietary interest, in any land which the Attàh has agreed to cede to Her Majesty, you will explain to the Attàh, or to his officers, that the person left in charge of the model farm, is to be considered on the behalf of the Agricultural Society, as the proprietor of such a portion of the territory originally proposed to be purchased, as may be agreed on by you, in consideration of the sum of 160,000 cowries, which has been paid to the Attàh's agents, being one-fifth of the whole purchase-money. The limits of such portion are to be clearly defined by you, and explained as well to the native authorities as to our settlers. You will also explain to the settlers who may choose to remain, that they will not be under the sovereignty of the British Queen, but under that of the Attàh of Eggarah, and they must therefore abstain from violating any of his laws. You may possibly be able to stipulate on their behalf for the taxes and duties to which they will be liable.

steering very difficult. By the active exertions of the carpenter and engineers, the defect was remedied in a

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"The Chief of Ibu, and of Eggarah, have agreed to abolish for ever the slave trade in their dominions; but as it is reasonable to suppose, that without the presence of a restraining influence, they will not take active measures to enforce the observance of the treaty by their subjects, you may have opportunities of seeing this inhuman practice still carried on. I am clearly of opinion, under existing circumstances, that you should refrain from all interference in such a case, since, in the first place, we have no authority from the Admiralty for capturing any vessel or canoe engaged in it; and in the next, there is reason to fear that such capture being totally at variance with the prejudices and ideas of right and wrong they have hitherto entertained; the natives not only would be unable to appreciate the principle upon which you act, but they might probably imagine that you have used your power for the purpose of appropriating the slaves to yourself. And, lastly, instances of rigour, although just, if they be not followed up, may, by exasperating the natives, be productive of much evil, not only to those persons who may remain as settlers, but to any future enterprize which may be purely commercial.

"On your return to the coast you will find one of Her Majesty's vessels at the mouth of the Nun ready to assist you, and probably with orders from the Senior Officer; otherwise you will return to this port, and be guided by instructions, which you will here receive.

"You will request the Senior Officer that he be pleased to take steps for sending all the Krumen and liberated Africans composing your crew, to their respective countries; and you will remember, in making out their pay-lists, that such men as you may think deserving of it, are entitled to one month's extra pay, as a reward for their good services.

"I have, &c.,

"(Signed) William Allen, Captain, and Senior Commissioner.

"To Lieutenant W. H. Webb,

"Her Majesty's Steam-vessel 'Wilberforce.'"

few hours, but unfortunately the night tide was lost, and they were unavoidably detained until the morning of the following day, when they began the ascent.

Although the tide was then at flood, Lieutenant Webb found no variation in the soundings or the strength of the current, as observed on the first visit; until arriving near Sunday Island, where the influence of the tide ceases, and the sombre-looking mangrove begins to disappear. There the obstacles commenced, and, as Captain Allen had predicted, the appearance of the river was totally different, to what it had been during the rainy season. Sandbanks presented themselves in all parts of the bed of the stream, in some places extending nearly across the whole width, and never affording more than from seven to ten feet of water, or if it happened to be somewhat deeper near the banks, the snags, (sunken trees) protruded in such numbers, that it was with the utmost difficulty they were avoided.

As the 'Wilberforce' proceeded upwards, few of the natives made their appearance in the several villages and towns; nor was there the same curiosity, fear, or wonder, depicted on their countenances as on the previous visit; indeed the "Devil ship" passed along almost unheeded, except by a few, who, for a moment, left off their occupations to gaze at her. Lieutenant Webb was of opinion, this indifference might have arisen from the little intercourse we had had with the tribes in the Delta, or possibly as he suspected in

many cases, from their having had some knowledge of Mr. Carr's fate, and therefore apprehensive that the object of the present mission was to retaliate.

Above Sunday Island, the current was found at that season to have lost much of its force, never exceeding two knots below Abòh, which taken in reference to steam-vessels of smaller dimensions and better proportioned powers than the 'Wilberforce,' affords, according to Lieutenant Webb's opinion, a good argument for preferring to ascend the river in the month of July or even so early as the middle of June.

On arriving at the branch of the river above Ingyama, through which the 'Wilberforce' made the passage in the August previous, and which Captain W. Allen thought might be tried on this occasion with advantage, it appeared to be nearly dry, and quite precluded the possibility of taking that route. The banks of the river, which in the rainy season had been in many cases inundated, now presented an elevation, varying from fifteen to twenty feet, while here and there, even in the bed of the stream, sand banks rose several feet above the surface. In fact this formerly broad sheet of water was diminished to a narrow stream abounding in shoals. In the neighbourhood of the larger Benin Branch, which was reached on the 5th July, these irregular deposits of sand were so numerous, and intersected the river in such a variety of ways, that the vessel grounded several times before they succeeded in finding a proper channel. What rendered the naviga-

tion more difficult here, was the fact that over many of them a few feet of water concealed the danger entirely from observation, and the first indication was the vessel striking, but where they showed above the water, the channel was generally well defined.

On the morning of the 6th, the 'Wilberforce' anchored off Abòh Creek, and, aware of the danger of losing time in such a pestilential atmosphere, Lieutenant Webb immediately proceeded to visit Obi, to state to him the objects of the mission, and if possible, to obtain some information respecting the settlement at the Confluence, and the fate of Mr. Carr.

The entrance of the Abòh Creek, which on the first visit of the Expedition was nearly a quarter of a mile in width, had now decreased so much, as to be barely sufficient to admit the use of the galley's oars, and the sandbanks were fully half way across the bed of the river.

After keeping Lieutenant Webb waiting almost an hour in the so-called palace, the King made his appearance, dressed out in the habiliments presented to him by the Commissioners, on signing the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade.

During the interview, which was very brief, Obi was informed of the ratification of that treaty by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, upon which he inquired, with his usual sagacity, how soon the trading vessels which had been promised, might be expected to arrive, but of course no satisfactory answer could be given on that

subject. He assured Lieutenant Webb, that he had no knowledge whatever of Mr. Carr's fate, nor had any information been forwarded to him of any white man having entered the river, or passed through his territory, and he was quite sure he had not come up thus far.

Upon inquiry respecting the settlement or model farm, his sable Majesty reluctantly produced a small box containing letters from the settlers, dated in October, 1841, which one of his headmen had received at Iddah "six moons before," saying at the same time, that there was a rumour of the Fulahs or Filatahs having attacked the place, and murdered three of the farmers. This detention of the box of letters, which it would have been so easy for Obi to have forwarded to its destination through the Bonny or Brass traders, with whom he has such frequent intercourse, very properly raised doubts in Lieutenant Webb's mind as to his sincerity; and his constrained manner when speaking on the subject of the fate of Mr. Carr and the model farm, caused a suspicion, that he knew more about them than he was disposed to communicate. He was, however, invited to visit the ship, to receive the presents which had been intended for him, although in consequence of the very questionable behaviour of Obi, Lieutenant Webb had come to the determination not to give him all that he was authorized to do, feeling convinced that his anxiety and disappointment proceeded from fear, lest anything should be divulged which might interfere with his "dash." Under all

circumstances, it was impossible to delay six hours, which was the time required by the king in compliance with Ibu etiquette; Lieutenant Webb having therefore waited until noon, without any appearance of the royal visitor, sent on shore by Prince Edjeh the following articles as a present, in the name of Her Britannic Majesty, viz.:—one double-barrelled gun, two single-barrelled ditto, one helmet, and twenty-two thousand cowries; after which, having already procured a native pilot, and being very anxious about the safety of those at the settlement, he hastened his departure from Abòh. In coming down the creek, a number of large canoes had been observed, and on inquiry, the pilot stated that they belonged to King Boy of Brass, who was said to be then on board one of them. This of itself was sufficient to authorize a doubt about Obi's conduct, since he had never mentioned that this person was at Abòh, although his name had been frequently referred to in the late conversation. On learning this, Lieutenant Webb immediately proceeded to the canoe in which Boy was staying, and requested to be furnished with any information he might possess respecting Mr. Carr. Boy's statement was just as unsatisfactory as that obtained from Obi; for while he acknowledged that Brown (a coloured man, employed as an interpreter in the expedition, and who had accompanied Mr. Carr a short way up the Brass Creek) had communicated with some of the Brass people about eight moons back, he disavowed

having heard that Mr. Carr, or any white person, was with him, or knowing the reasons which had led Brown to visit the Brass river. He suggested, however, that if Mr. Carr had landed, or passed his, King Boy's water, the son of the late King Jacket, now a co-chief in the same river, might have been aware of the circumstance. This allusion, considering the near neighbourhood of these chiefs, was sufficient to convince Lieutenant Webb, that King Boy knew more than he chose to tell; and while it confirmed his fears as to Mr. Carr's fate, he was fully determined, that if spared, he would, on his return, make Boy account for Mr. Carr, or otherwise carry him a prisoner to Fernando Po.

Nothing could have been more disgusting than the fawning abject behaviour of that chief; his very look betrayed the consciousness of detected guilt. In the afternoon the 'Wiberforce' proceeded slowly up the river, and soon reached the village on the opposite bank, (marked the "hostile town" on Captain W. Allen's chart). Here the natives were assembled in immense numbers, and evinced the same degree of curiosity, that had been so remarked in every part of the river on the previous melancholy visit. At 3 P.M., a heavy squall was experienced from the south-west, accompanied with lightning, thunder, and rain; the direction of the wind—south-west,—was a very unusual one. Ali Herr the pilot, was soon found to be utterly incompetent for his task, being ignorant of

the channel; and however qualified to be the conductor of canoes, was useless for a vessel drawing six feet of water. Having threaded their way among numerous sandbanks, which required no ordinary care, they anchored in the evening.

On the 7th, they were enabled to make a fair progress, and again anchored for the night.

Early on the 8th the passage was resumed; but soon after weighing, it was discovered that the wrong channel had been entered, and in "winding" the vessel to get out of the difficulty, she grounded. The kedges were quickly laid out, and with the assistance of the engines, aided by the untiring zeal of the Commander and crew, soon succeeded in clearing the shoal, and reaching the mid channel by dark, where they again brought to for the night. While the vessel lay aground, an Aboh canoe came alongside, from which some provisions were purchased. On looking into her, a slave, bearing the mark of the Haussa nation, was observed chained to the bottom of the boat. Lieutenant Webb pointed out to the owner this breach of faith on the part of King Obi; he did not wait for a further explanation, but moved off directly, quite pleased no doubt, to have escaped without loss of his little barque and cargo, which, according to the treaty, would have been forfeited. Captain Allen had suggested the propriety of not exasperating the natives, by seizing slaves in canoes, in case any were met with; and it was considered more prudent to act on this

advice, (the vessel being surrounded by difficulties,) rather than indulge the impulse of feelings, which dictated the wish to liberate all that were discovered in bondage on the water. On the 9th the vessel grounded for about an hour, on a bank near Tanuku Market, in passing which a large concourse of people were observed bartering various kinds of food, grass mats, country cloths, &c. At 4 P.M., they were abreast of Onyah Market, the highest limit of the Ibu territory; the sandbanks here were even more extensive and higher than any yet met with, averaging nine feet above the surface of the stream. On all these, immense crowds of people were encamped in tents, to the number of at least fifteen hundred; each tent had its own appropriate flag, decorated with various fantastic devices. Apparently there was but little trade going on, but in its absence plenty of "palaver," as is indeed the case throughout all African communities. Soon after 5 P.M. they were abreast of the river 'Edoh,' supposed to be a tributary of the Benin river, which the 'Soudan' attempted to ascend in the previous season, without any definite conclusion as to its source.

The object so judiciously kept in view by Lieutenant Webb, was to make the passage up, as rapidly as was consistent with the safety of the ship, as he thereby hoped, if the crew kept in good health, to be able to reach Rabbah and conclude the treaty with the King of that place, or at any rate, to make an appearance off the city. Soon after noon of the 10th, the 'Wil-

berforce' anchored off Iddah ; Mr. Davey the carpenter was sent on shore, for the twofold purpose of inquiring if the commander of the ship could have an interview with the Attàh, from whom it was hoped some information might yet be obtained respecting Mr Carr ; also to ascertain by the mark, ordered by Captain Trotter during the former ascent, to be made on a large cotton-tree when the river was at its height, how much the water had decreased. The boat soon returned with intelligence, that the Attàh could not be seen until the following day; that the settlers at the Model Farm were all well, but that no tidings of Mr. Carr had as yet reached Iddah. By the mark just referred to, the river was found to have fallen thirty feet.

Not wishing, in a race of life and death, to lose twenty-four hours for the caprice of an African chief, they immediately weighed, and proceeded upwards, keeping between English Island and the cliffs on which the city is built. They had not, however, moved very far in that channel, before the soundings shoaled so much, that they were under the necessity of retracing their steps, in doing which, the vessel again got aground ; a kedge was immediately thrown out, and subsequently the best hawser anchor and chain and every available means used to get the vessel hove off, without effect.

Notwithstanding the untiring and praiseworthy exertions on the part of officers and crew, continued during

a great part of the night, the vessel remained aground until the following afternoon, when by renewed hard work she was got off. In the meantime the Attàh's head Mallam, Massabah, came on board, bringing a box of letters from the settlers, written five months previously, in which they described their anxiety for the return of the vessels, as the Filatahs had, on two occasions, threatened an attack. Mallam Massabah inquired why Lieutenant Webb had not visited the Attàh, on his way up here, and was told, that there was no time to be lost, and if the chief of Iddah had been so anxious to see the white officer, he would not have kept him waiting as had been required when an interview was sought; moreover, the letters had been detained a long and unreasonable time, instead of being forwarded to the coast as they ought to have been, according to the stipulation in the treaty to that effect. The Mallam replied that the Attàh of Iddah would have broken through a long established custom, if he had received a visitor the same day that he arrived, and as for the letters, there had been no opportunity of transmitting them. It was then explained to Massabah, why the vessel had come up on the present occasion, and he was requested to return to the Attàh, and obtain permission to accompany or follow the 'Wilberforce' to the Confluence, that a final settlement might be made on the spot, concerning the purchased territory, and to prevent any unfavourable impression from a supposed want of courtesy, a handsome silk tobe was

forwarded to the chief of the Eggarahs, and a piece of drab silk to Amada Bue, the Attàh's sister.

Early on the morning of the 12th, they were again under weigh, and by half-past 7 A.M., were abreast of Bird Rock. The appearance of this locality was now entirely altered; when seen on the former passage up, it was only a few feet above the water, it now rose to a height of thirty feet, and at a little distance bore no slight resemblance to a ship under sail. Several rocks were observed on each side, some of which were from fifteen to twenty feet above water, although entirely hidden from view on the former ascent, and must have been passed over. At noon, in wending through a cluster of these rocks, some of which were thirty-five feet above the surface of the river, in the proper mid-channel, near the lower end of Beaufort's Island, with leads going fore and aft and every possible precaution, the vessel struck violently on a concealed reef, which penetrated the second compartment on the larboard side, in the neighbourhood of the Boatswain's store-room, and started four rivets in the third compartment on the starboard side; the soundings taken just before she grounded, by two careful leadsmen, showed three fathoms forward and four fathoms aft. The engines were stopped and immediately reversed, but ineffectually; and before Lieutenant Webb could run forward from the break of the poop, the foremost compartment filled up to the lower deck. All hands were without loss of time, at work, to clear the injured division,

and the best bower anchor and chain were laid out astern, with a kedge on the larboard quarter, and two lengths of hawser to the rocks from the starboard bow. After several unavailing attempts by the various purchases, together with the reversed action of the engines, finding it impossible to move the vessel, she was made secure for the night. During the greater part of the following day, (the 13th) every exertion was made by altering the stowage, heaving on the purchase and using the engines, to get out of this critical position, but without success. It was then determined to send Mr. Waddington, the acting boatswain, to the Confluence, in charge of a boat, to clear out the 'Amelia' tender and drop her down the stream if possible, to take on board the stores and provisions and thus lighten the 'Wilberforce.'

Late in the evening, eight men belonging to the 'Amelia,' came down in a large galley attached to the settlement, which Waddington had sent off on reaching there, while he and his party remained busily engaged in preparing the schooner, in which he contrived to be back to the steam-vessel on the evening of the 14th. The difficulties which he met with, not only from the intricacy of the navigation for sixteen miles among rocks and sandbanks, but the mutinous disposition of some of the crew, rendered it a work of no ordinary care to fulfil as he had done, and well bestowed were the high eulogiums passed on him by his commanding officer On the 15th, the 'Amelia' was brought alongside, and

great portion of the stores and provisions were removed, in which operation they were aided very much by the Bahah refugees, some of whom came down in the schooner from the Model Farm, where they had sought protection during the late wars. In the afternoon, another attempt was made to heave off, which failing, the vessel was secured for the night. Early on the following morning, the remainder of the stores were put on board the schooner, when the purchase was again tried, and the vessel moved a little; it was necessary, however, to throw overboard six tons of coals, to lighten her still further, and in the evening she was made fast for the night. A heavy squall broke over them about midnight, but was not productive of any injury to the vessel as she then lay. The baling and pumping were resumed through the night, and on the 17th, she was with some difficulty hove off. Taking the 'Amelia' in tow, they proceeded at full steam towards the Confluence.

When the enervating nature of the climate considered, it is truly surprising that this little band of Europeans could have endured, as they did, the continuous labour required under such trying circumstances. Had their commander been a less firm or enterprising character, perhaps the 'Wilberforce' would have remained in the river, to supply the natives with malleable iron for their spears and swords; but knowing the dangers that awaited him when he entered on the mission, he was prepared to undergo anything rather than not

persevere in carrying out his instructions. Of the conduct of those who were with him, it is impossible to speak too favourably; deeply is it to be regretted that some of them so soon fell sacrifices to the astonishing exertions required on that occasion, and did not survive to enjoy the rewards they might reasonably have expected.

While the vessel was aground on the reef, the old princess, Amada Bue, came on board; she was accompanied by the chief Mallam, Massabah, who had been requested by Lieutenant Webb to go with him to the Confluence to make a final arrangement about the land ceded. Amada Bue brought with her two goats as a present from the Attàh of Iddah, and an assurance that he would supply any provisions required. The old princess was so pleased with her reception, and—like most of her people,—with what she saw going on, that she prolonged her visit to nearly twenty hours, when she quitted the vessel and returned to Iddah, landing the chief Mallam, on a neighbouring rock, whence he was again brought to the 'Wilberforce' by an Eggarah canoe, which was returning from a market higher up the river. In this canoe, two female slaves from Kakanda were discovered, and Lieutenant Webb, in pretty strong terms, reminded Massabah, that his master, the chief of Eggarah, was violating the treaty made the previous year, by thus allowing his people to deal in slaves; "the keeper of the king's conscience," instantly pushed off, and did not again make his appearance.

They anchored off the model farm, on the morning of the 18th, and found the settlers had not been molested by any of the neighbouring tribes, but were in a state of disorganization among themselves. Renewed attempts were made to keep under the leak, and the vessel's bottom was swept with a topsail and rain awning; this, however, with constant baling and pumping, was ineffieient; the anchor was therefore again weighed, and the vessel was grounded with her bow on a grassy bank, about a cable's length from the right shore. On a careful examination, the injury was ascertained to be five feet in length and two inches in breadth, under the boatswain's store-room, which was only to be repaired by fixing an iron plate from within.

This case shews the immense importance of having vessels, especially steam-boats, built with water-tight compartments; had the 'Wilberforce' been otherwise constructed, she would certainly have been a total wreck; the water would have passed rapidly into the engine-room, extinguishing the fires, and perhaps causing the boilers to collapse with all the attendant frightful consequences.

On the 19th, they were again busily employed on the leak, and in restowing the provisions and stores from the schooner, as the river was rising and Lieutenant Webb was anxious to reach the city of Rabbah with the least possible delay. Hitherto no sickness had appeared among the Europeans of the crew, and

there was every reasonable ground of expectation, that he might be able to carry out the views of Her Majesty's Government, but in the evening two of the most efficient persons, Messrs. Davey, carpenter, and Johnstone, chief engineer, were seized with fever, thereby cancelling all the previous arrangements.

July 20th.—Early this morning, the after compartment was discovered to have three feet of water in it, which it appeared had been occasioned by the oversight of the engineers on the previous night, in not putting the box nuts on the pipes which connected the bilge in the engine-room with the several compartments. In consequence of this accident, it was absolutely necessary again to remove the stores, and clear out the afterholds. Many of the presents and a good deal of powder were found to be damaged. The whole day was occupied in drying these articles, and in keeping the foremost division of the vessel constantly baled dry, so that the engineers might fix the plate.

21*st.*—Busily at work putting the holds in order, and restowing the stores. Mr. Camcron, the second engineer, was taken ill with fever, so that the whole duty of that branch fell on the remaining one, Mr. Collins. This reduced strength of engineers, of course retarded all the operations, which were now being made preparatory to moving down the river.

Shimaboe, uncle of the Attàh of Iddah, went on board to pay his respects, when he was informed of the necessity of removing the settlers from the model

farm, at which he expressed his regret; but he fully concurred in the arrangements made by Lieutenant Webb with respect to the disposal of the buildings and crops; and as his conduct had evidently been so friendly, he was presented with a damask tobe. After the interview with Shimaboe, Lieutenant Webb proceeded on shore, having learned that the Fulahs or Filatahs were within three miles of the settlement, and engaged in an attempt on the village of Priapri, situated on a rocky eminence at the foot of Mount Pattèh. He took with him one of the officers and an interpreter, being in hopes of obtaining an interview, with the chief of the invading army. On arriving at the scene of action, it was found that Agajah, the chief of the village attacked, had obliged them to retreat, thus frustrating the prospect of a meeting with the predatory Filatah chief.

Agajah, a short robust man, with a countenance unusually open for an African, displayed two arrows as trophies of his late—probably bloodless—victory. He had with him about four hundred men, armed with bows and arrows: two persons, apparently of consequence, carried each an old-fashioned musket. These were the only fire-arms observed among them; nevertheless, the people were better appointed, and expressed more determination in their looks, than was to be expected from them. The position of the village—Priapri—was well chosen to resist an attack, and the chief averred he had successfully resisted all inroads for

a number of years; that hitherto he had never had recourse to flight; but as his enemies (the persecuting Filatahs) were becoming more numerous every moon, he began to be apprehensive of the consequences. Agajah's manner was straightford and manly, and quite cordial, until Lieutenant Webb declined presenting him with the pair of pistols he had brought with him. The refusal evidently displeased him; however, on the following day, two single-barrelled guns were sent to him by the son, who visited the ship, and exhibited in his person the fine characteristics of his father.

A few days before the arrival of the 'Wilberforce' at the Confluence, Gogoe, a village between Priapri and the model farm, had been abandoned by its inhabitants, under apprehension of a hostile visit from the Fulahs. The fugitives took refuge on the dry sand banks in the bed of the river, where they had built huts, as a temporary security against the attacks of their enemies, who never venture on the water, and rarely dismount, unless to bind the unfortunate victims, who invariably give themselves up in passive hopelessness, without a shadow of resistance. These statements, show that the settlement, could not altogether secure its immediate neighbourhood from aggression; nor can it be wondered at, when it is known how few in numbers they were, and without a European to direct them.

On the 22nd July the repairs were so far completed

as would enable the 'Wilberforce' to reach Fernando Po, and in the afternoon the steam was got up, and the vessel hauled alongside the landing-place, to receive the remaining stores, &c., belonging to the model farm. Four poor creatures from the Bahàh country, who had taken refuge at the settlement, were also brought away at their earnest solicitations, as they dreaded the thought of being left behind. Their country is situated a day's march, west of Mount Pattèh; and judging from their industrious dispositions, it is probably well cultivated; but the destroying Fulahs had found their way there, and obliged the wretched people to seek another home. Before leaving the Confluence, Yarriba George, a stoker, was discharged, at his own request, as also Harvey and Finlay, two men who had served some years in one of the West Indian regiments—subsequently as interpreters in the Expedition—and were now desirous of visiting once more their native town, Rabbah. The latter person wrote Arabic, and had excellent certificates of character with him. By him Lieutenant Webb forwarded, as a present to Hassaman Zaïki, King of Rabbah, one silk velvet tobe, two scarlet caps, and eleven thousand cowries, together with a letter, in which he thanked His Majesty for not having interfered with the settlers at the model farm, and expressed the hope, that should Her Britannic Majesty's government see fit at any future time to renew the attempt, the same amicable feelings, would be manifested: the disadvantages of the Slave Trade, were also represented.

By this opportunity, there were likewise sent to Attiko, the King of Soccatoo, a handsome silk tobe, a spy-glass, and a package of buttons; considering the occasion a good one, to cultivate a friendly understanding with these powerful chiefs.

The three liberated Africans who were thus discharged, had been for many years associated with Englishmen, and had numerous opportunities of becoming acquainted with the blessings of civilized life. As they were men of good character, particularly Finlay and Yarriba George, their reception and future influence in their several cities, will be a subject of interesting inquiry.

At the time of abandoning the model farm, there were about twenty acres of land under cultivation, and in good order, chiefly planted with cotton, and a few yams. The first cropping with corn and cotton had entirely failed, as it is supposed from the seed having got damaged on the voyage from England. The crops then growing were the produce of country seed, and were very promising.

Twelve mud-huts had been erected, as well as the model farm-house, except the gable end; and the reason given by Nichols the carpenter for this being unfinished was, that he could not obtain wood or teach the fugitives about the settlement to saw it into planks. This of course was a mere subterfuge, as wood abounded on the opposite shore, and also quite sufficient near the farm, which might easily have been cut into plank by

the operatives on the spot. The fact is, Lieutenant Webb found, that Mr. Moore, the director *pro tempore*, had neither authority or influence over Nichols and his subordinates; that Mr. Neizer, the clerk, had been more occupied in malversation, than in the business of the society for whose benefit he was employed, and had besides appropriated to his own purposes a quantity of merchandise acquired with the means entrusted to his care, and which he was obliged to restore. Only a few of the settlers wished to remain, and these at increased wages. In short, the most complete disorganization had taken place, and there was no prospect of matters amending or going on favourably, without some European of ability and firmness, to direct the affairs.

Mr. Hensman, Acting-Assistant-Surgeon, proffered his services to remain as director of the settlement for six months, and in him no doubt would have been found the requisites for the proper management; but the time specified was too short—only six months—to hope for any permanent advantage; and besides, the rapidly-increasing sickness of the crew, rendered it absolutely necessary, for that officer to continue his duties on board.

On strict inquiry into the conduct of the settlers generally, it was ascertained that, except Thomas King, who had been left in command of the 'Amelia' schooner, they had been guilty of continued insubordination, and gross indulgence in the

worst vices of the natives *. They were lazy and indolent, not one of them willing or disposed to manual labour, yet ready enough to exercise authority over the negroes they had hired, and whom they employed on the most trifling occasions, rather than exert themselves. As a proof of their love

* This is fully corroborated by the journal of Thomas King, which, though minute and diffuse, contains some interesting particulars. As they tend to throw light on the manners of the natives of the interior, and especially on the disorganized state of society produced by the foreign slave-trade, to which it is a chief means of furnishing the victims, we give some brief abstracts from it :—

"The 'Albert' was hardly out of sight, when Thomas King began to feel the difficulties of command; his crew commenced a system of mutinous conduct, which continued throughout the whole period of their stay at the Confluence, and was marked by every crime, short of murder, which was several times with difficulty prevented. On one occasion they nearly provoked an attack on the settlement, by their atrocious conduct at the village of Pandaïki. Moore and King went through the form of trying them by jury, which was curiously composed of magistrates, witnesses, and advocates. The criminals were sentenced to pay a fine of 16,000 cowries, 10,000 to the injured chief and his people, the remainder as a *court-fee*. Her Majesty's stores furnishing the *wherewithal*.

"The natives on all occasions were well disposed towards the settlers. The Attàh in particular, proved he was sincere in his professions of friendship and protection. Shortly after the departure of the 'Albert,' he sent a present of a bullock, and his agents finding that some persons had committed theft, caused them to be seized and sent to the Attàh, who punished them, by selling them,—for his own profit we presume.

"They expressed some dissatisfaction at seeing the inhabitants of the mountain,—Kakanda people—move about unmolested, saying, that if it were not for the settlers at the model farm, they would all be made slaves if they ventured down to the bank of the river.

of power and proneness to abuse it, it may be mentioned that a number of the surrounding natives had been hired to assist the people at the farm, in trans-

"Shimaboe, uncle of the Attàh, chief of Gandeh on the Chadda, also shewed good feeling towards the settlers. He performed a praiseworthy act in reconciling two petty chiefs, who for some trifling quarrel or debt, had been in the habit of capturing and selling such of the relatives and followers of one another as they could entrap. King, told him that this deed would afford the white men great pleasure on their return.

"*March 3rd.*—The whole district was in alarm at the reported approach of the Filatah army. The inhabitants of all the villages instantly took refuge on the sandbanks, and this was the only occasion on which King was able to muster his crew on board the schooner. The invaders, however, withdrew in the evening.

"The city of Egga has remained unmolested by them, since the visit of the 'Albert,' but the marauders had divided their army, one party intercepted all canoes going to the market below the Confluence, and the other had intended to attack Toto, the Kakanda people, and the settlers at the model farm; but the King of Rabbah was reported to have sent to the general, named Markeny, to deter him, saying, that 'white men had come from a distant country to see him but had been obliged to turn back by reason of illness, that they had left some of their party as settlers, and it was not comely nor reasonable to hurt strangers in that way.' One of the methods practised by the Filatahs in the countries devoted to their aggression, appears to be that parties of about ten horsemen and some foot soldiers, lie in wait in the 'bush,' near a village, and at daylight, when the unsuspecting natives go to their work in the fields, they are seized and hurried off to their camp, where they are kept in chains till sent off to the markets, but the women are thus confined only during the night, a few cowries being given for their daily subsistence.

"King witnessed several cases of kidnapping and private slave catching. A man applied to him for redress against a *woman*, who had recently captured two of his brothers, one of whom she had already sold – on an allegation of robbery – he said she had sold eleven of his

porting the stores from the hill to the vessels; and two of the settlers were found to have furnished themselves with whips, apparently for the purpose of

relations altogether; King recognized one by name as being apprenticed to a friend of his at Sierra Leone. He said the price of slaves varied from 6,000 to 40,000 cowries; in time of great distress, they were as low as 300, and children were even sold for 10 yams each.

"Some natives near Adda Kudda, attacked a canoe, belonging to Pandaïki, on the way to the market; they were beaten off, mainly by the courage of a woman, and some of the aggressors captured. The exploit was celebrated at her village, by rejoicings during the night, and she came in procession to the farm singing her song of triumph.

"Another act of piracy took place in the neigbourhood: a man had made himself responsible for a debt contracted by his wife's mother, but, before he could pay it, he was put to death by the Attàh, together with all his sons, except one. The survivor, to avoid the persecution of the creditor, had recently settled on a sandbank, where he had built a temporary hut. During his absence one day, a canoe came from his native village and carried off his wife, child, and servant, in face of the whole population of Pandaïki; who made no other attempt at a rescue than by vociferations and threatening gesticulations. The poor man pursued them, but without success, and he said unless he could redeem them they would be sold. The debt was 40,000 cowries, about fifty shillings.

"King and Moore decided very wisely, that it would be better not to have anything to do with slave-cases, as they had neither the power nor the authority to enforce the treaty, and by interference they might draw on the settlement the ill-will of the natives. Among the people working at the farm, were five young men, who wished to earn sufficient money to defray the expense of the funeral of their father, who had been dead *five months*. In the mean while the body was preserved by fumigations and frequent washings, and was ornamented with dyewoods.

"King appears to have exerted himself very laudably in endeavouring to get a full attendance at Divine Service, and at the school,

urging those under them to greater exertion. These instruments were immediately laid aside by Lieutenant Webb's injunction, and although he had not seen them actually applied in punishing the natives, yet he had every reason to believe that they were in the habit of

but without effect. He was much shocked at the immoral conduct of the settlers and natives, and had the schooner removed from abreast of the landing-place, where the women used to come of a morning to bathe indiscriminately with the men. He visited the different villages and wished to make an opening for the introduction of Christianity, by pointing out the folly of their fetiche worship, which in some cases the natives acknowledged. He was particularly annoyed at a mistaken attempt to do honour to our festival of Christmas by the natives of the surrounding villages; who at the invitation of Moore had come to the settlement with drums and shouting, &c., and fetiche men whom he called 'devils.' He explained the meaning of the holiday, and how it ought to be kept.

"*July 7th.* – King paid a visit to the mountain Pattèh. He found it 'as level as the deck of a ship,' with a great deal of cultivation. Many villages, but with one exception, Ajjidido, they were filthily dirty. Aggajeh was inhabited by fugitives from Bassàh; having no land of their own, the chief sent his people to work for the settlers at the model farm, but he complained that one by one they were sold into slavery by the Pandaïki people, and even by their employers as he had been informed. But this we hope was untrue. King retorted the charge by saying 'Yea, and even they themselves sold one another sometimes.'

"During his absence, the houses of the model farm with the exception of the store and two others, were destroyed by fire; which gave occasion for him to lament 'the rude manner that we who came from a civilized country and are well acquainted with the damage the destructive element often causes, should build houses in worse condition than the natives."

King's journal terminates here.

Lieutenant Webb arrived eleven days subsequently, 18th July.

carrying these instruments, which even if never used, could not fail to inspire the natives with terror, and alienate their good feelings, to the great injury of the British character, inasmuch as they were reputedly under the English flag. Of the whole number (thirty-two,) who had been left there in charge of the model farm and the 'Amelia' tender, nine were willing to remain, but only on condition of receiving increased wages, and having an European superintendent to protect them. All these circumstances combined, obliged Lieutenant Webb to act on the discretionary power vested in him, and to abandon the settlement; a resolution which though, unavoidable, he could not help regretting, as he felt that they were retiring from a position of great advantage, whether regarded as an inland point from which commerce and civilization might be expected to diffuse their blessings throughout the adjacent countries, or as a place of refuge for numerous fugitives seeking to avoid slavery; where they might become acquainted with the advantages of improved agriculture, and possibly in time form a considerable and enlightened colony under British auspices.

Such indeed had been the fond expectations of its philanthropic originators, but without the directing aid and intelligence of a European it was vain to look for success. Had Mr. Carr, the superintendent, been spared to reach a second time the field of his important labours, it is more than probable the model establish-

ment would have progressed satisfactorily. Even under the vicious and disorderly management of the settlers, a feeling of confidence in its protection had sprung up among the surrounding tribes, and no less than three hundred refugees had found an asylum there from the persecuting Filatahs; a gratifying proof of their faith in white men, which would have deepened and increased by proper guidance.

It was a source of pleasure to Lieutenant Webb, that he could leave these poor people in the care of Kulema, a Bahah chief, and Sumana, the head man of Pandaïki, both of whom had shown every anxiety to maintain amicable relations with the persons of the model farm, as well as with each other. And as a return for their many friendly offices, Sumana was allowed to take possession of the model farm buildings, while his neighbour, Kulema, was presented with the crops then growing. A horse was "dashed" to Kudajah, another of the Bahah chiefs, and 22,000 cowries (in value about 2*l.* 5*s.* sterling) among the natives of the adjacent villages who had been employed. This sum, though small in our estimation, was, in their circumstances, looked on as a very fair reward.

Of the immense traffic in slaves, which obtains in this part of the river some idea may be formed, when it is stated on the authority of King, who was in charge of the model farm, that he had seen as many as fifty canoes pass down in one day, with their cargoes of human victims.

Having made the final arrangements respecting the property of the settlement, and taken the 'Amelia' schooner in tow, Lieutenant Webb moved the 'Wilberforce' into the middle of the stream on the evening of the 22nd July, and early on the following morning commenced the passage downwards, arriving at Iddah during the afternoon. He proceeded on shore immediately, hoping to have an interview with the Attàh; but as the native etiquette, which demands a certain protracted ceremonial, was inconsistent with the weakened condition of the crew, he was under the necessity of merely holding a short "palaver" with the Attàh's sister—Amada Bue—to whom he communicated the changes that had been made at the settlement, and the disposition of the property. The good-natured princess conveyed this information to the Attàh, and returned with an answer that he quite acceded to all that had been done, regretted that the white men were going away, and hoped the English would, ere long, resume possession of the model farm. Lieutenant Webb had received instructions to make a suitable present to the chief of the Eggarahs, in return for his kindly feeling towards the Expedition in the previous year; and although he found him infringing the treaty by allowing his subjects to deal in slaves, it was considered better to leave a favourable impression, by sending him a tolerable present, in case the mission might be again attempted, or the farm re-established. The following articles were accordingly selected:—Three

velvet tobes, three scarlet caps, one piece of silk, one cloth dress, one piece of blue velvet, one piece of variegated velvet, three boxes of razors, three papers of buttons, one snuff-box, one saddle and bridle, four pairs of pistols, one helmet, and thirty-five yards of cloth.

Nor was the dignified chief Mallam, Lobo, forgotten, a damask tobe and pair of silk trowsers being forwarded for his acceptance.

With as little delay as possible they again weighed, and proceeded down the river, anchoring for the night, and on the 25th arrived at Abòh, where they were obliged to stop, and communicate further with King Obi, and if possible with Boy, the King of Brass River, respecting the fate of Mr. Carr. Ali Here, the pilot, who was now discharged, was the bearer of an invitation to King Obi to visit the 'Wilberforce.' While waiting his answer, two messengers were sent on board from King Boy, who was encamped with his numerous followers on a sandbank near Aboh Creek, to say that their king wished to see the white captain, respecting the person who was said to have entered the Brass River, about seven or eight months back.

It will be remembered that on the former occasion, when questioned on this subject, he denied having any knowledge whatever, of the circumstances connected with Mr. Carr's arrival in his dominions.

A boat was immediately dispatched, with a request

that King Boy would come on board as he had promised, but he returned an answer that he could not leave the camp without "white man" would fetch him. Although there was some appearance of treachery in this proviso, Mr. Hensman, Acting-Assistant-Surgeon, immediately volunteered to go for him, as it was considered safer to hold the palaver on board. Boy, however, still refused to come off; but he acknowledged that a white man—doubtless Mr. Carr—had entered his river about seven or eight moons since, though not under his protection, and that he (King Boy) had in his possession at Brass Town some of the white man's clothes, together with two prisoners (Bassa men), from whom the clothes were taken about that period.

Finding the king would not venture off, Lieutenant Webb proceeded on shore in person, and endeavoured to prevail on him to accompany him on board, hoping, when once there, to oblige him give a more particular account of the unfortunate superintendent. Boy still declined to leave the shore, but made the same statement as he had previously done. In reply to the questions, why he had concealed this knowledge from the white men on the late visit, as also from the King of Bonny River, he studiously avoided giving any direct answer; and while he declared that he had no positive evidence of the murder of Mr. Carr, yet he said he believed him to have been killed by the Bassa people, and he was ready to furnish the pilots for that locality, although averse to going himself.

Finding it impossible to obtain any satisfactory elucidation of the matter, Lieutenant Webb was anxious to have got Boy on board, and unless he afforded great proofs of sincerity, to have taken him on to Fernando Po; but having only a weakened and unarmed boat's crew, to oppose to Boy's numerous followers, strongly encamped, and supported by large armed canoes, he returned on board, and got the vessel under weigh, with a view to interrupt a retreat into Abòh, and thus perhaps intimidate the Brass chief into a compliance, without having recourse to actual hostilities. Owing, however, to the confusion and delay, occasioned by the numerous canoes which surrounded the vessel, Boy was enabled to make his escape up Abòh Creek, across which the 'Wilberforce' was laid, in ignorance of his having already past.

In the meantime King Obi had come on board, but alarmed at the movement of the vessel, he quitted it in one of his canoes, and proceeded to his town, despite of all entreaties to remain, and assurances that the white men were his friends.

Disappointed at not being able to bring King Boy to account, the two messengers (Brass men) were secured, in the expectation of getting further information from them, in case their chief could not be induced to furnish it. The sickly state of the white crew, eight in number—three of whom were dangerously ill with fever, and two others complaining—rendered it absolutely imperative to remain as short a time as

possible in this most insalubrious portion of the river.

A second message was sent to Obi, informing him that they were friends, and begging him to renew his visit, which his sable majesty promised to do, if the Captain would come for him in person.

Lieutenant Webb, in compliance with the King's request, accordingly went on shore in the galley, accompanied by Mr. Hensman, intending to disembark at the landing-place, where there were many canoes. On the way thither, it was necessary to go near several war-canoes, which were secured close to the banks, on each side of the creek. After passing some of the first, the attention of the persons in the galley was attracted to the movement among some of the armed canoes astern, apparently endeavouring to close upon them, while their crews, by taking up fire-arms, no longer concealed their intention of cutting off the retreat of our countrymen. The galley was immediately turned and pulled up alongside the nearest war-canoe, and Lieutenant Webb pointed his pistols, (the only arms in the boats,) at the leader, who instantly dropped his musket, supplicating by sundry gestures for mercy, and calling aloud, "King Obi! King Obi!" The other canoes at once paddled away for the shore, but the right bank was simultaneously crowded with armed men, who, until that moment, had not shown themselves. Some of them directed their muskets at the galley, but the appearance of the pistols in

Lieutenant Webb's hands—acted like a talisman in deterring them from violence, and the boat was allowed to rejoin the vessel without further molestation.

The messenger sent by King Obi had remained on board the 'Wilberforce,' but seeing the galley on her way back, he hastily quitted in one of the canoes then alongside, on which Lieutenant Webb called out to those on board to prevent his escape; Mr. Webb, the clerk in charge, with his usual promptitude, sprung forward with a musket, which he pointed at the fugitives, desiring them by gestures to return, but fearing the consequences, they all jumped overboard from the canoe, and swam for the bank, the high grass of which, would have effectually concealed them from view. At this juncture, one of the Krumen threw a boarding-pike at the messenger, who avoided the stroke by diving, and continued his course; but the galley just then coming up, he was seized by the crew, and brought on board as a prisoner. There seemed to be every probability that this messenger had been sent to the vessel as a decoy, aware of the hostile intentions of his master, and perhaps ready to take advantage of any opportunity when Lieutenant Webb was captured, to have called the people out of the canoes, on board, and thus have secured the vessel. He was therefore put into irons; and as a punishment for his part of the treacherous scheme, as well as in the prospect of eliciting some information about Mr. Carr, was to be carried on to Fernando Po.

There was fortunately no firing on the part of our countrymen—who acted with most praiseworthy forbearance on the occasion. The only reprisal made, was to capture a canoe belonging to King Boy, by whose machinations, Obi had in all likelihood been induced, to make such an ungrateful return for the favours bestowed on him.

After waiting a short time to allow the chief an opportunity of explaining this hostile conduct, the 'Wilberforce' got under weigh, and proceeded down the river.

The next morning, Obi's messenger and the two Brass men, King Boy's subjects, were severally interrogated respecting Mr. Carr's captivity or murder. Their statements merely went to prove what had been already avowed, that King Boy had taken two Bassa men prisoners, who had in their canoe, when examined, some white men's clothes, and that the persons thus suspected, as well as the articles found in their possession, were at Brass Town, Boy's head-quarters. That the two Bassa men said, the "white man" had been tied to a tree and shot, at Bassa Town—a small place situated in a narrow creek of the lower Benin branch, about forty miles from the mouth of the river—and his servant, a liberated African, sent into the country as a slave, but more probably murdered to prevent his giving evidence against them, at any future time.

The white man's effects were described as com-

prising "plenty of clothes, plenty of books," thus affording a strong presumption, that they were the property of Mr. Carr. It could not be learned in what direction the Bassa men were going when captured by King Boy, nor could they explain away the very suspicious circumstance, that if the Bassa people had murdered the unfortunate gentleman, how came the canoe with his clothes into Brass Creek, nearly sixty miles apart from where the transaction was said to have taken place. It seemed probable, that these witnesses had been prepared by their chief, with the necessary evidence.

One thing was quite evident, their eager anxiety to exculpate their own tribe, and to fix the stigma on the Bassa people; this induced Lieutenant Webb to go down the first Benin branch, under the pilotage of the prisoners, intending to make the fullest inquiry into the subject at Bassa Town. However, after passing five or six miles down the river to the entrance of the creek, the vessel grounded on a bank; the channel was sounded, and found to be very narrow, but having inside of the shoal as much as five fathoms water. The breadth of the creek was not more than one hundred and fifty yards. A kedge anchor was laid out, and the vessel hove off with some difficulty. While thus employed, three very large canoes were observed coming down the creek; and as their manœuvres were suspicious, and the position of the ship rather critical, it was thought better to warn them off, by firing some

of the brass swivels over their heads, which had the effect of dispersing them without coming to a collision. They jumped overboard, and fled to the bush, which seems to be the most approved native method, of getting out of difficulties. The boatswain had now become quite unfit for duty, the third engineer scarcely able to move about, and the medical officer also laid up with fever, so that of the small crew of whites, only Lieutenant Webb and the clerk-in-charge, were now out of the sick list. It was therefore thought impossible to prosecute the inquiry further, without risking the ship, and the lives of all on board; and late in the evening, they rejoined the 'Amelia,' which had been left higher up, took her in tow, and anchored for the night in the middle of the stream; in rounding the schooner, she ran foul of the right bank, and carried away her bowsprit.

On the 17th at daylight they were again under weigh, using every exertion to get down the river while there was a person left, capable of directing the steerage. A little below the Benin branch, several volleys of musketry were discharged by the inhabitants of a small village on the right bank; but the distance at which it was observed, together with the circumstance of their having allowed the vessel to pass unmolested, rendered the intention of doing so doubtful; as a precautionary measure, the Krumen were kept under arms. At 10 A.M. they arrived at the mouth of the river, and having victualled the schooner

for nine days, prepared for crossing the bar at low water. This step now became absolutely necessary, in consequence of the increasing sickness of the third engineer, who was so debilitated as to be scarce able to stand; and the others were confined to their beds in a high state of fever. The bar was crossed at noon, which, though time of low water, they found not less than two fathoms, and not much swell.

During the twenty-six days the 'Wilberforce' had been in the river, Lieutenant Webb ascertained, by careful observation, it had risen two feet. From the experience of that officer, and the general state of the atmosphere, (deduced from meteorological tables kept,) he is inclined to the opinion, that May, June, and July, are the best months for prosecuting any service there, with vessels of light draft of water. The air was infinitely cooler in the day-time, and with less dew at night, than had been found in the previous visit during August and September. Another advantage is, the diminished force of the current at that season, scarcely ever exceeding two knots, except in the neighbourhood of the rocks and narrows, where it was somewhat more rapid, but never more than three and a half knots.

On the passage to Fernando Po, the 'Amelia' schooner sprung a leak; and a large galley, which it had been necessary to tow astern, was totally lost,—the state of the weather being such as to prevent any delay in attempting to save her. On the 29th July, the

'Wilberforce' and 'Amelia' anchored once more in Clarence Cove, having been absent exactly one month. The latter, which had become quite unfit for H.M. service, was sold at Fernando Po; and as there was no further object in detaining as prisoners, the two natives of Brass River and Obi's messenger, they were liberated, and a passage to their own country arranged for them. The necessary repairs were made, as far as it was possible to be done; and after searching unsuccessfully for the Senior Officer, Lieutenant Webb considered it more prudent to bring the vessel to England; the 'Wilberforce' arrived at Plymouth on the 17th November, 1842. This course, indeed, was rendered imperative, as the engineers had only been enabled to secure the iron rivet-heads outside, very superficially and imperfectly, and delay would only have added to the danger by the corrosion, which must have taken place, immersed in water as the injured parts were; besides, there was no part of the station where the damages could have been properly rectified.

All the Europeans employed on that occasion, suffered more or less severely from fever, and two of the number (eight) fell victims to it,—Mr. J. H. Webb, clerk-in-charge, a most amiable and enterprizing young officer, and Mr. Waddington, boatswain, a noble specimen of a British seaman,—active, daring, and good-natured. Both of these unfortunate persons had, throughout the difficulties of the expedition, conducted themselves in a manner it would be impossible to

extol too highly; and their loss was a source of deep regret to all who had served with them.

We have only to add, that the conduct of Lieutenant (now Commander) Webb, whose proceedings had been marked by so much energy, courage, and zeal, was approved of by both the Admiralty and Foreign Office, and will probably not be overlooked in future service.

The fate of Mr. Carr, the unfortunate superintendent of the model farm, has never yet been confirmed by further particulars; the general impression is, that he was murdered by some of King Boy's people, and that the chief himself was cognizant of the circumstances, if not actually an approver of the deed. The African Association, in whose service he was employed, thinking there might yet be a prospect of his being alive and in captivity, generously offered a reward of two thousand dollars for his recovery; but hitherto nothing has been elicited to confirm their hopes.

CHAPTER XII.

Communication of the Egyptians with the interior of Africa—Conquest of many tribes in the interior—Sabaco, an Ethiopian prince, reigns over Egypt—Immigration of Copts into Ethiopia—Some of their customs adopted by the Abyssinians—Analogies between many of the observances of Abyssinia and West African tribes—Religious rituals of the West Africans probably borrowed from the Egyptians—Orders of priesthood—Mysterious ceremonies associated with the priestly office—Secret religious societies of Africa—Offerings to the deities—Sacred animals—Customs connected with mourning for the dead—Yam festival, its apparent connexion with some Coptic ceremony—Various observances common to Egyptians, still met with among the West African tribes—Identity of design in many of their manufactures—Aggri beads found among several African tribes—Inferences to be deduced from all these circumstances.

NUMEROUS and great indeed, have been the changes of weal or woe that have taken place throughout the widely-extended family of mankind, since the distant period when Noah's youngest son retired with that dreadful curse, "A servant of servants shalt thou be;" but the proscribed race still bears with it, and is to bear yet longer, the utmost fulfilment of that malediction. Sunk and degraded in the scale of humanity, the

civilized world has looked on them but as indeed enduring slaves, nor stopped to inquire whether the dark skin might not contain beneath it human feelings, high impulses, and germs for improvement. The history of the negroes in the middle ages, even, is enveloped in a darkness, illustrative of the sad fate which for thousands of years has been gloomily suspended over them, and, except of Cush or Ethiopia, so often referred to in Holy Writ, and which perhaps did not include the southern and more central parts of that vast continent, we have few records. Now, however, that our own enlightened country, is striving to repay in some degree, the debt so long due to the Africans, everything which can throw light on their condition, social relations, institutions, and connexion with other nations, anciently or in modern times, is examined with deep interest. We have, therefore, ventured to put together a number of particulars, which, though imperfect, will, we trust, induce others who visit Africa to look more deeply into the subject, and to trace still further the analogies which exist between the institutions of the Western Africans and those of the Abyssinians and Copts. That such analogies are numerous cannot be questioned, though they are obscure; but if we remember how long an interval has elapsed, since these nations exerted an influence over the internal parts of their continent, and the proneness of a persecuted race to stand still, as it were, while others more favourably situated were progressing, we

may regard the coincidences as fair indications of the source from whence they were derived.

Of the communications kept up by the Egyptians in the earliest ages with portions of the interior of Africa, there are too many records to leave any doubt; and it would seem that what was at first the field of commercial enterprize eventually became the scene of wrong and oppression. "Many black nations were conquered by the early monarchs of the eighteenth and nineteenth dynasties, as the Toreses, the Tarcas, and another whose name is lost*, as well as the Cush or Ethiopians. These last

* Sir Gardner Wilkinson has here put a note, referring to a figure, No. 12, represented at page 385 of the first volume of his 1st series, as being the one illustrative of the tribe "whose name is lost." On looking at this, we were struck at once by the peculiar outline of physiognomy: the thick lips, the manner of arranging the hide waist-wrapper, the armlets, the appearance of beads round the neck; leaving but slight doubt of its having been a tribe of South-western or Central Africa. In corroboration of this opinion, we find, at page 404, vol. i., black slaves, with their women and children, taken from a representation at Thebes. The features, hair, and mode of putting on the waist-covering of the male, exactly corresponds with the one referred to at page 385, vol. i., while the loose waist-cloth of the female is narrow-striped, and worn precisely as obtains to the present time among nearly all the nations of Western Africa. The elongate, pendulous breasts of the mothers are truthfully shown, as also the beads round the necks of the women and children, and the waists of the latter, in whom the hair is shaven or clipt, so as to leave little bunches or patches, a custom observed to this day among all the tribes on the banks of the Niger, and many of the coast inhabitants. The smaller children are shown to be carried by the mother in a sort of basket, which rests "à posteriori," a modification

were long at war with the Egyptians, and part of their country, which was reduced at a very remote period by the arms of the Pharaohs, was obliged to pay an annual tribute to the conquerors*;" and we find among the representations, of those engaged in bringing the acknowledgment of their subjection, during the reign of Thothmes III. in the eighteenth dynasty, long rows of negroes, figured in waistcloths of narrow striped manufacture, and some with armlets and beads round their necks, who bear elephants' teeth, woods†, pottery, and animals; some of which latter depicted in the Temple of Kalabsha, convinced Burckhardt that the Copts had extended their warfare "into a country inhabited

of which is yet found among the Bluebarras and Krus, the *kanki* of the Fantis, and the very general way of securing the infants to the back, or resting on the hip. There is also, at page 385 of the same volume, a figure (No. 9) of a black from the interior of Africa, who wears a loose dress very much resembling the tobe, still so commonly used in the upper part of the Niger and in Central Africa. He has also the massive ivory or metal bracelets. If this and the preceding figures are compared with Nos. 13, A, B, C, D, depicted as the true Cush or Ethiopian, we cannot avoid coming to the conclusion, that the conquered nation "whose name is lost" was one from Central or South-western Africa.

* Wilkinson's *Manners and Customs of the Egyptians*, 1st Series, vol. i., p. 387.

† Referring to various articles in use by the Egyptians, Sir Gardner Wilkinson says, "The first (ebony) came from the interior of Africa, and formed with ivory, gold, ostrich feathers, dried fruits and skins, the object of the annual tribute brought to Egypt by the conquered tribes of Ethiopia and the Soodan."—2nd Series, vol. i., page 82.

by lions, cameleopards, apes, and elephants, none of which are found in Nubia or Dongola," and "that the battles must have been fought 'to the south of the civilized country of Ancient Meröe*.'"

This intercourse, though for the most part aggressive, must have enabled the black races to become acquainted, at least partially, with the arts and usages of their civilized oppressors; and since slaves were also included in the list of exactions, some of whom, with a natural attachment to home, would endeavour to escape, and return to their native districts, might thus bear with them recollections, of what had obtained among their Coptic masters.

Perhaps the first direct impulse towards a change in the negro institutions was exerted by Sabaco, an Ethiopian prince, who conquered the Egyptians, and who, according to Herodotus, reigned over them fifty years; when, having been advised in a dream to put the priests to death—a deed repugnant to his nature—he preferred retiring from the government, having held it for that period, as predicted by his oracle; and returned to his native country, where it is probable he introduced many Egyptian arts and customs†. The most important event, however, for that end, occurred in the time of Psamatichus, who ruled over Egypt about 600 years B.C. This king having given much

* Burckhardt's *Travels in Nubia*, p. 119.

† Vide Wilkinson, 1st Series, vol. i. p. 133.

offence to his Egyptian troops, by "keeping them in the distant frontier towns of Marea, Daphne of Pelusium, and Elephantine," they became disaffected, and to the number of 240,000 retired into Upper Ethiopia. "They entered the service of the monarch of that country, and in return received a considerable extent of territory upon the confines, from which the Ethiopian prince ordered them to expel a tribe of people at that time in rebellion against him; and this migration of the Egyptian* troops introducing the arts and manners of a refined nation, had a very sensible effect in civilizing the Ethiopians†."

It is impossible such an influx of intelligent colonists —not forgetting other frequent communications with Egypt—could fail to cause great alterations, and the introduction of many religious and civil institutions among the negroes; and this once commenced, would like the circle in disturbed water, gradually diffuse itself among remote tribes, and though leaving but slight impression on the more distant, still enough, to show it had reached them. The Negroland of Abys-

* Vide Wilkinson, as deduced from Herodotus, 1st Series, vol. i., p. 153.

† That these were already acknowledged as an altered nation we find the prophet Jeremiah, chap. xxv., v. 24, about the date of that occurrence, alluding to kings "of the mingled people that dwell in the desert," and Ezekiel, at a rather later period, about 570 years B.C. in his denunciations against Egypt, Ethiopia, and Libya, (chap. xxx., v. 4 and 5) speaks of them as "all the mingled people."

sinia, until the engrafting of Judaism and subsequently Christianity, presented numerous proofs of this connexion with the Egyptians, from whom they had borrowed many of their customs and laws, some of which even remain, though modified, to the present time; but the long interval, with its several mutations, leaves us in obscurity as to the actual extent to which that influence was exerted. The manner in which both Herodotus and Diodorus Siculus refer to Ethiopians, civilized and barbarous, show that the habits and manners of some were changed, and we must incline to the opinion of the learned Bowdich, that the transition of some of the former to the southward, is proved, in the numerous coincidences still existing between the ancient Abyssinian customs and observances and those of the Ashantis and some other Africans. Nor is it improbable that the expeditions of Ptolemy Evergetes, Cornelius Balbus, and Septimius Flaccus, had also their share in obliging the negroes to move south and west. Be that as it may, the tide of emigration has been gradually setting in these directions, and the traditionary statements of many of the West African tribes, lead to the presumption, that scarcely any of them had their origin in the localities they now inhabit, but much further to the north and east*.

* Vide an Essay on the Superstitions, Customs, and Arts, common to the Ancient Egyptians, Abyssinians, and Ashantees, by T. E. Bowdich, Esq., 1821. Page 11 to 18.

This valuable, but unfortunately very scarce publication, we were

We are not therefore surprised, on comparing the littoral inhabitants of Western Africa, to find the proofs of their former connexion but faintly discern-

unable to consult, until we had put together materials from other sources, yet we have thought it due to that distinguished and learned traveller, to substitute the following large extract, which explains so clearly the causes of the migration to the south and west.

"The Ashantees and their neighbours, must have again been disturbed from time to time, by the several emigrations of the nations of the Mediterranean, whom Buache, in his researches for the construction of a map of Africa for Ptolemy, has at once discovered by the identity of the names, in the neighbourhood of the Mediterranean, and south of the Niger. The Mimaces, for instance, are laid down by Ptolemy, a little south of Tripoli; and again, a little west of the modern Yarriba. The Nabatharæ close behind Algiers, and also where Dahomey now exists. The Dolopes in the present dominion of Tripoli, and again where we expect to find the Negro Kingdom of Kulba. The Blemmyi in three places: on the Arabian Gulf, near Rees Ageeg; on the eastern frontier of Abyssinia; and south of the Equator, a little above the track of the traders from Loango to Nimeamay. The Astacures are found, in Ptolemy, on the confines of Tripoli, and again south of the Niger, near where our informants described the modern kingdom of Atagara to be, so that some trace of the name seems to be preserved.

"The Daradi, another of Ptolemy's emigrant nations, (although they do not appear to have advanced beyond the modern Bergoo in his time,) probably afterwards proceeded further westward, and founded the existing kingdoms of Daura, the neighbour of Cassina. The Gallas are still found south of Abyssinia, and also in the interior of the Grain Coast of Guinea. Cornelius Balbus subdued Gallas on the northern bank of the Niger. Browne learned that the people of Dageon, the neighbours of Darfour, came originally from the vicinity of Tunis.

"Many more instances might be given of the same names being found at remote distances north and south of the Niger, whilst other nations, as the Samamicii, originally from the coast of the Mediter-

ible, and especially in the arrangement of their governments.

ranean, near Lebeda, do not appear to have reached the Niger in Ptolemy's time, but to have rested in their progress on the northern frontier of the Negro Kingdom of Asben. It appears that the Arabs, whom Pliny and more ancient writers affirmed to have settled from Syene as far up as Meroe, have since that time penetrated south-westward into the interior of Ethiopia; for in the accounts and MSS. charts which I have received from the natives, Wadey was always distinguished as the first Arab dominion, and its inhabitants were said to use a different diet, and their ambition only to be repressed by the great power of the Emperor of Bornou. This progress of the Arabs inland must have contributed to the dislocation of the Ethiopic or Negro Nations.

"The expedition of Cornelius Balbus (the last Roman general who enjoyed the honour of a triumph,) who reached the Niger, and marched for some time on its northern bank, (apparently where the modern Negro kingdoms of Noofee, Yaoora, and Fillani, are now situated,) must doubtless have disturbed many of the colonies and aborigines, and induced movements to the south of the Niger. The previous expedition of Seutonius Paulinus, (who seems to have passed near where Park understood the source of the Niger to be, into the country of the Perorsi, placed by Ptolemy between the Gambia and the coast,) must also have contributed to the secondary movements of the Ethiopians.

"Septimius Flaccus, according to Marinus of Tyre, made a three months' expedition into the interior of Africa, proceeding from the country of the Garamantes into Ethiopia, and traversing Libya. Julius Maternus, according to the same author, was employed four months in a similar enterprise, having departed from Leptis Magna, or the modern Lebeda, to join the Garamantes at Garama, in order to invade Agysimba, the country of the rhinoceroses. Ptolemy objects to the unreasonable length of time allotted to these marches, without reflecting that they were neither likely to be direct, long, or rapid. As no great lake, or considerable river, is mentioned as existing in Agysimba, it has been concluded that they neither reached the Niger

The learned essay* to which we must refer our readers, clearly traces the resemblance, in several points, between the Abyssinians and Ashantis, not only in many of the observances but also in the title of royalty. Thus according to Mr. Salt, the prefix of the Ethiopian or shepherd kings was Za or Zo, which at a later period was written Zaï or Saï, from which Bowdich very properly inferred, the Ashanti designation of Ozzaï or Ossaï—sometimes used simply Zaï or Saï—to have been taken, and we believe the Ezzeh or Issa, (royal

or the neighbourhood of Timbuctoo, or Houssa. This may admit of argument, but that such extensive expeditions must have compelled or induced many nations and tribes, not very remote from the Niger to emigrate further southwards for safety, cannot be doubted.

"Probus undertook an expedition against the Blemmyi, near the frontiers of Thebes, vanquished them, and sent several prisoners to Rome. Diocletian transported considerable numbers of the Blemmyi and Nobatae, to an island in the Nile near Elephantine, accorded them temples and allowed them to choose their own priests. Before the reign of Diocletian, the Roman frontier extended to within twenty-three journies of Axum. Thus then it would appear, that tribes or nations of the more civilized Ethiopians were ejected by the great Egyptian emigration; pressed still farther by the conquerors, whose invasions were recorded at Axum and Adulis; again dispossessed by the enterprising Carthaginian colonies spread from Cyrene to the Atlantic; by the Numidians, Gætulians, and Garamantes, driven southwards by the Romans; and ultimately arrived at their present situation, through a series of internal wars and emigrations, *positively recorded* in their own historical traditions, but otherwise unknown to us. Many of the superstitions and customs which these people had previously adopted from the Egyptians, are still existing, and many must have been lost or corrupted in their change of abode, and their consequent connexion with the less civilized Ethiopians."

* Bowdich's Essay.

title of Ibu and Nufi kings) as also Attàh of the Eggarahs to have been so derived. This appears the more probable, when we discover existing among these somewhat rude tribes, certain offices attached to royalty even in the African clay palace; thus we have called attention, at Cape Coast, to the retinue of the Akim caboceers, and also those of the chiefs of Abòh, and Iddah, where we find, head musicians, fan-bearers*, cane-bearers, persons holding situations similar to the *απομυιοι* of Hesychius, who drove away the flies by means of chowries, and above all the office of king's † mouth, or royal interpreter,—Kal-hatze of Abyssinia,—it being contrary to etiquette, for those sovereigns to communicate directly with any one. We find too, the same respect for royalty at Iddah as obtained among the Abyssinians, namely, that the king was neither allowed to eat or drink in the presence of any person. At Iddah it was carried so far, as even to suppress the display of the commonest emotions of our nature‡,

The practice for one or more judges to attend the king in time of war in Abyssinia, is still observed by the Ashantis and Eggarahs; indeed among the latter, the chief and second judges are the generals of the army§. It is however in the religious rituals, that we properly look for the greatest number of coincidences,

* Vide vol. i., page 146.
† Vide vol. i., pages 216, 289.
‡ Vide vol. i., pages 289, 293, and 296.
§ Vide vol. i., page 326.

inasmuch, as it is natural to man to retain longer unaltered, those customs and ceremonials which connect his thoughts with the Great Spirit, whom even the most benighted Pagan cannot but acknowledge; and here we are inclined to believe, that the mystical allegories of the ancient Egyptians, have been the foundation of those fetiche absurdities, which are so blindly followed by the Negro races to this day. Among that singular people, the sacerdotal appointments were not only the most honourable, but the most influential, and even their kings had probably only a nominal superiority over those, who pretended alone to be the intermediators between men and the deities. "The sacred office of the priests, by giving them the exclusive right to regulate all spiritual matters, as well as to announce the will, threaten the wrath, and superintend the worship of the gods, was calculated to ensure them universal respect*,"—and they seem to have taken great care that any sublimer knowledge or belief in the attributes of Omnipotence they themselves entertained, should be concealed from vulgar speculation, under the fabulous guise of a plurality of gods. We can readily conceive that a religion, which thus offered as it were tangible evidence of a communication with superior Being, would soon find votaries among those black races, who had an opportunity of observing the veneration of the Egyptians; and that the dark

* Vide Wilkinson's 1st Series, Vol. i., p. 257.

and imperfect views of theology which might thus be received, would only tend to develope the forms of polytheistic paganism, which we observe now to obtain among so many African races. If their oppressors thus openly worshipped deified animals, can we wonder at finding the barbarous negro following such example? How far then at the present day, do we notice the operation of that same religion, at places the most remote from the centre of its first propagation?

Take the whole Inta race, the Krus, the Edeeyahs, and the large family of Ibus, with their offshoots, the people of Bonny, Calabar, and Camcroons, and among all we find a graduated priesthood*, secondary only in name to the kings or chiefs, by whom they are entrusted with almost every office of importance or wealth; who, in common with their subjects, look to these juju men to avert the wrath of the deities or propitiate their favour;—who place the most implicit confidence in their powers of good or evil, and who imagine they can communicate directly with the great Spirit.

Among the Egyptian hierarchy not only were there certain secret rituals at each stage of advancement in the sacred office, but there existed a separate order of observances—the mysteries—of which Sir

* "Next to the king, the priests held the first rank, and from them them were chosen his confidential and responsible advisers."—Wilkinson's 1st Series, vol. i., p. 257.

G. Wilkinson says: "From all we can learn on the subject, it appears that the mysteries consisted of two degrees, denominated the greater and the lesser (like the Eleusinian, which were borrowed from Egypt), and in order to become qualified for admission into the higher class, it was necessary to have passed through those of the inferior degree, and each of them was probably divided into ten grades." "The honour of ascending from the less to the greater mysteries, was as highly esteemed as it was difficult to obtain*."

Even princes were not privileged to initiation into the highest order until their accession to the throne, when, in virtue of their kingly office, and as president of the religion, they then became entitled.

Now existing to the present day, there are among nearly all the West Africans, certain mysterious societies connected with the priests or juju men, who are alone said to conduct the ceremonials: they are divided into classes, and the kings and fetiche-men are at the head of them. Thus the "Almouseri" of the Footatoros, the "Purrah" of the Timmanis and Bulloms, the Samo of the Soosoos, the Mumbo-Jumbo of many tribes, the secret religious orders of the Akus, and the free Egbo of the Old Calabar and Cameroons.

It is unfortunate, that except the last, so little is known of the organization of any of these societies, All of them are, however, reputedly in connexion

* Vide Wilkinson's 1st Series, vol. i., p. 267.

with the priesthood, and are said to have arisen out of mysteries observed by them. The rites of initiation are performed at night in a retired part of the woods, and death is the punishment for those, whose temerity or curiosity might tempt them to overlook the sacred proceedings*.

Mr. W. F. Daniel, who had various opportunities of becoming acquainted with some particulars respecting the free Egbos of Calabar and Cameroons, says the Egbo is sub-divided into several grades, of which there are eighteen or twenty; of these the highest and most aristocratic has been termed Grand Egbo. All orders of Egbo have their own appropriate day of ceremonious observance; but it is only on days set apart for the performance of the mysterious rites of Grand Egbo that every house within the town is closed, none of the inhabitants being permitted to leave them, under the penalty of death, or severe corporeal punishment, &c. The king is at the head of the highest class of Egbos, &c.†

We cannot hear of the existence of societies so singularly and systematically arranged, among tribes so rude and barbarous, without feeling convinced, that they

* The feast of Minerva, at Saïs, took place at night, each person bearing a light; it was intended to represent the allegorical history of Osiris, which the Egyptians considered the most solemn mystery of their religion.

† Proceedings of the Ethnological Society of London, 1846; also vide vol. ii., p. 241 of this narrative.

were borrowed from those of the more distant inhabitants of Egypt, the features, as far as can be gathered, being so identical in both.

According to Porphyry, "the Egyptians either considered animals the real deities, or represented them (their gods) with the heads of oxen, birds, and other creatures, in order that the people might abstain from eating them;" and each town or district had its own especial one, who was supposed to preside over its interests. Now what are the intermediatory agents of the West Africans to this time? Are they not animals held in various degrees of veneration and respect, or their rudely-carved representatives? Thus,—the sacred crocodile of a portion of the Intas, the snakes of Dahomey and of Brass River, the shark of New Calabar, the iguana of Bonny, &c.; and there is scarcely a tribe of Western Africa that has not one or more of these figuring at the head of their religious observances; and so far from destroying or using them as food, it is one of the most serious crimes to injure them.

In tracing the coincidence still further, it appears not a little singular, that the Coptic priests should have made use of exactly the same animals, in their oblations to the deities, as still obtain among most of the negro races of West Africa, viz., goats, sheep, gazelles, and white fowls, which were the sacrificial animals; and the blood and heads of these were considered the

most appropriate offerings to their deities*, and the priests alone were permitted to immolate them. The objects of animal worship were multifarious, and each held in respect according to its supposed importance; and not only did the Egyptians reverence them as symbols of their gods, but they also believed in evil genii, who presided over sublunary matters and the elements,—these, according to Iamblicus (De Mysteriis,) were the demons or δαιμονες, from which arrangement, we suspect, must have been deduced the division of good and evil spirits, confided in so implicitly by all the West Africans.

Of the various deities among the Ethiopians†, Neph was an especial object of adoration. He was represented by a ram's head‡, his emblem; and this was worn as a common charm or amulet by the devout of all classes; it is therefore a strange analogy, that not only in the worship of the Great Spirit, but even among the *penates* of the West Africans, particularly the Krus, Ibus, Edeeyahs, and Bimbians,

* Vide vol. i., pages 117, 249. Vol. ii., pages 199.

According to the testimony of Herodotus and Plutarch, the religious festivals and observances of the Egyptians, were principally held about the time of new, and full moon; the periods still observed by the tribes of Western Africa. (Vide vol. ii. p. 224.)

† Vide Wilkinson, 2nd series, vol. i., p. 241.

‡ In the Egyptian saloon of the British Museum, there is a statue of Pioeri, prince of Ethiopia, in the reign of Rameses II., kneeling, and holding an altar, on which is a ram's head. It is from Belzoni's collection.

the head of the male sheep or goat should be the chief offering, and that the skull should afterwards be retained about the person as an amulet, chiefly by the priests or juju men. While thus alluding to specific deities, we think it not improbable that the Nis-rah or Great Spirit of the Krus, may have been derived from a complication of Neith, the god of wisdom, and Ra, the physical sun*; and that even the Moh (idol, but sometimes used to express the Great Spirit) of the Edeeyahs, may have had its origin in the Mant—nature or mother; and which was sometimes represented among the Egyptians under the form of a cat's head, an animal—especially the *Genetta Richardsonii*, the wild cat of Fernando Po—which is held in deep veneration by the Edeeyahs †.

At the religious festivals of the Copts, libations were poured out for the gods, and sometimes sprinkled about the floor; and this is still observed among the West Africans, among whom we know not a tribe which does not make a practice of spitting out the first mouthful, or pouring on the ground a little of every fluid they partake of; and this they say is intended as an offering to the fetiches or jujus; and in their oblations to these idols, palm-wine or rum always accompanies the other articles of food.

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* Among the Duallas, or people of Cameroons, the word A'luba, signifies God, the Great Spirit, and also the Sun.

† Vide vol. ii., p. 200.

The affectionate respect evinced for the memory of the dead by the Egyptians, induced them to preserve by various methods the remains of those they had cherished in life; and not only was the period of mourning long, but at various seasons the family met together, to revive the reminiscences of the departed. Among the Western Africans, of course it would be in vain to look, for anything assimilating to so costly and difficult a process as that of embalming, although the Ashantis smoke the bodies of the dead to preserve them*; and in every tribe where cotton clothes are found, the deceased is wrapt up in various quantities according to his wealth; and several articles of ornament are either buried with him, or placed over the grave, as we had occasion to point out, in describing places visited by the Expedition†. Both in Egypt and Abyssinia, lamentation was made for the dead; a sort of wake being held, on the assembling together of the relatives and friends, who tore their hair, and likewise bewailed the loss, which is just as it is observed by the West Africans. That this could not have been engrafted on the Abyssinians by their adoption of

* King, an intelligent African, who was left in charge of the 'Amelia' schooner at the Confluence, states in his journal, that some Bassa youths, who worked at the model farm, did so to obtain cowries sufficient to bury their father, in a proper manner; they had kept the body five months, by smoking it over a fire, frequently washing it, and repeating the preservative process, as also decorating it with powdered camwood.

† Vide also vol. ii., p. 201 and 229 of this narrative.

Judaism, is certain, inasmuch as the Jews were forbidden to do so.—(Lev., chap. xxi., verses 1 and 5; also chap. xix., verses 27 and 28.) Nor did it arise among the other negro races from any connexion with Mahommedanism, since, by the Koran, women were prohibited from mourning at funerals, and the celebration of the virtues of the deceased was not allowed; yet both of these practices are invariably attended to by the Krus, Intas, Ibus, Eggarahs, and Edeyahs.

The Coptic families* mourned seventy-two days; and it is somewhat odd to find among rude people such as the Krus, that after an interval of three months or moons, prayers for the dead and mourning are again observed; while the simple Edeyahs have the seven days of lamentation, and one moon or month of mourning. We doubt not if all the circumstances attendant on the demise of persons in the other tribes were known, we should be able to trace many coincidences referrible to a common origin, as well as that of placing food and libations on the graves of the deceased,—a custom we opine to have been taken from that of the Egyptians, who had also their offerings for the dead.

But of all the African observances of fixed character, perhaps that of the "yam custom" is the most

* The people of Cameroons, and Old Calabar, bind a piece of black or dark blue cloth round the head, and neither wash or change their waistcloths for several weeks while mourning for the dead; they are literally in "sackcloth and ashes." The Egyptians wore black on similar occasions.

singular on many accounts. It is one which nearly all tribes adhere to; and though there may be some slight difference in the period, still it is common to all; and the manner in which it is carried out among all of them, evinces that it must have had its origin from one and the same source. Thus the Krus, Intas, Dahomians, Ibus, Eggarahs, and the littoral inhabitants of Cameroons, Bonny, Calabar, Fernando Po,—all mark the season of planting their yams and grain, by a religious ritual, and a festive meeting of all the tribe. With the exception of the Ashantis, and perhaps the Ibus and Eggarahs, the ceremony is untainted by human blood; the offerings being goats, sheep, and *white* fowls, portions of which, after being roasted, are laid together with palm-wine, as oblations before the idols: this done, they continue the entertainment for several days. Whether this had any connexion with the feast observed in the month Athyr, when the Egyptian husbandman began to sow his corn, or was copied from the form of general thanksgiving to the deities, on the rising of the fertilizing waters of the Nile, it would be difficult to surmise; but we may reason, that it was taken from some one of the many similar Coptic institutions.

It has often been a question, whence so many of the West African races borrowed the practice of circumcision, which although not universally followed in any tribe, is yet pretty generally adopted by the inhabitants of the banks of the Niger, and by the subdivisions of the

Ibu family: as it is observed among some who have no trace whatever of Islamism, in their religious or domestic customs, we may conclude it to have been introduced along with the others to which we have already called attention. That it was practised from the earliest times, appears on the evidence of Herodotus, who says that its origin, both among Egyptians and Ethiopians, may be traced to the most remote antiquity, but he knew not from whom it might have been borrowed. From inscriptions and devices on the monuments of Upper and Lower Egypt, Sir G. Wilkinson, thought it must have been in use long before the arrival of Joseph or the Exodus of Moses, and it continued to be more or less kept up to the latest times, so that when their country was overrun by the disciples of the prophet, that institution at least accorded with the impostor's views.

Another practice, which being common also to the Arabs of later times, might be supposed to have had its origin in the spread of Mahommedanism in Western Africa, — we allude to painting, or rather colouring the eyelids of the women and children, with preparations of galena or antimony; a fashion very generally met with among many of the Negro people we are referring to – and at Iddah, we were not a little surprised to find metal and leather bottles very similar in shape to the Kohl bottles of the Egyptians, with styles or bodkins, for the purpose of applying the pigment; and at Cameroons and Bimbia, far removed

from the influence of the prophet's followers, the same mode of disfiguring the eyelids was found. Now, we can scarcely imagine that they would have adopted a troublesome fashion, which at best could have but slight distinction on their dark skins, if they had not at some period noticed it, as in use among a lighter coloured and more civilized people.

Many, therefore, are the coincidences between the institutions and customs of the swarthy negro and those of the ancient Coptic family of the same continent; and in pursuing the question of their former connexion, we might also adduce proofs from several of the manufactures, or rather from identity of design, in their rude attempts at imitation. Thus we call attention to the narrow-woven cloth, with a blue border, the figure and outline of their swords, daggers*, cowrie and brass armlets, the earthern lamps, musical instruments, met with at Iddah and Ashanti, and other places; the shape and texture of the palm-leaf baskets, the crescentic middle portion of the African stools, so similar to the head-stools of the Copts, &c. Lastly, as a direct proof of the intercourse between these (so differently

* The daggers figured in Sir G. Wilkinson's Egyptians, 1st series, vol i. p. 318, not only resemble very much in their conformation those in use among the inhabitants of the Upper Niger, but the mode of decorating the blade with cross marks is also an indication whence the latter was borrowed. The daggers, number 3 and 7, at p. 406, of Wilkinson's 1st series, vol. i., p. 406, shew also an evident resemblance.

circumstanced) inhabitants of the great African continent, we may notice the presence of Aggri beads, such as were manufactured by the Egyptians alone, in at least three tribes with which we are acquainted, viz., the Krus, Fantis, and Eggarahs, among whom we have found them of unquestionably Coptic character; and we have it on the evidence of the talented Bowdich that they are also met with at Ashanti. We believe, a consideration of all these different circumstances will go far to prove, that much of what now obtains among the negro races of Western Africa—both in their government, forms of religion, and civil institutions—were adopted from the numerous though imperfect opportunities they had, of becoming acquainted with those of the ancient Egyptians. As before stated, "if we remember the proneness of a persecuted race to stand still as it were, and the long interval which has elapsed since the date of that communication," we may rather wonder at being able to trace in their rude institutions, any comparison with those from which they had borrowed them.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE SLAVE QUESTION CONSIDERED.

On returning to the shores of our country, after an undertaking replete with danger and suffering, we found an almost universal impression that we had failed in executing the purposes for which we were sent. This we venture to submit to a considerate public, is not only severe, but unjust, in so far as it would appear to implicate those who had the conduct of the Expedition; and it is hoped that the preceding narrative of our progress will show that we *succeeded* in performing the duties assigned to us, until paralyzed and beaten back by an enemy against which neither skill, courage, nor forethought could avail. We might indeed be considered as having been in battle with a superior force, whose destructive and unceasing fire proved fatal to a large proportion of our crews; very few escaping injuries of such a nature, as to leave permanent traces of their debilitating effects. We in fact only retreated with strength enough to carry away our

*wounded**; the Commander of the Expedition being the last who abandoned the field.

If this should not be considered sufficient to account for failure, other—secondary—causes may be traced to the anxious desire of the promoters of the Expedition that it should be wanting in nothing which might be conducive to the safety of the crews, or the furtherance of the great object in view. These solicitudes undoubtedly occasioned a fatal delay; especially on account of the model farm, which, though on too small a scale to justify the sanguine expectations of its benevolent founders, was much too cumbersome to be imposed on an Expedition having a mission to fulfil of more immediate importance.

We trust to be exonerated from any intention of imputing blame, especially when we know that all was done from the most praiseworthy motives; but being a *fait accompli*, we deem it to be our duty to point out this mistake, as it is probable that, had the detention been only to land a few agriculturists with some simple tools at the Confluence, to make a commencement, the Expedition, with the same, or perhaps with a *little less*, amount of mortality and suffering, might have reached Rabbah on the Niger, and some important place far up on the Chadda. But with such a primary element of failure, who can say what

* See Appendix; statement of the crews, and Vital Statistics of the Expedition at its close.

ought to have been accomplished with a diminution of slight secondary causes? It is useless to waste our time on hypothetical cases:—but the question,—What has been the probable effect of our abortive attempt? may be advantageously considered.

In our short intercourse with the most powerful chiefs of the interior whom we visited, bright hopes of wealth and future prosperity were held out, if they would follow our counsels.

In particular, we assured them, that by employing their slaves at home, in the cultivation of the land instead of selling them, they would be enriched by the produce and consequent trade with white men. In furtherance of this, by timely gifts, we induced them to enter into treaties with us for the relinquishment of the slave trade, which they had hitherto looked on as a legitimate source of revenue. We even enforced those treaties, and inflicted the penalties of infraction in the case of Ajimba*;—but we left them to doubt our truth or our power. Surely we owe it in justice towards our oppressed and abandoned *allies*, and to the dignity of the British nation, to redeem the promises solemnly made when publicly invoking God's blessing on the treaties.

They strongly adverted to the performance of our stipulations, implying, as it were, that their adherence should be contingent on ours. King Obi said, "If

* Vol. ii. p. 85.

you want me to put down the slave trade, you must send plenty of ships,"—for the commerce which we assured him would be more advantageous. By failing to do this *we have* undoubtedly broken the treaty and have justified his return to the Slave Trade.

The deadly nature of the climate would seem to be a sufficient excuse, to the natives as well as to ourselves, for not continuing the enterprise with Europeans, although it may be questioned whether the "experiment of penetrating by the Niger to the interior of Africa has yet been fairly tried*," owing principally to the lateness of the season when the expeditions have commenced the ascent of the river,—by which they had to encounter both the unhealthiest season and the most difficult time for navigating.

The intelligent native chiefs and headmen with whom we conferred, who had unbounded confidence in our power,—not lessened in any respect by the magnificence of our promises,—although they were eye-witnesses of our sufferings in the unfortunate attempt, might fairly ask if the white man had exhausted all his resources;—if, one method having failed, no other could be devised by his superior wisdom?

It remains, therefore, either to make the tacit but humiliating acknowledgment that the white man has *no further resources*, after all his brilliant promises,—leaving the worse than useless effects of the Niger

* Captain Allen's Report to Lord Stanley.

Expedition to lessen us in the estimation of the African,—or that other means should be devised for following up the benevolent intentions of Her Majesty's Government.

Before we venture to allude to those means, we think it necessary to advert to the great and perplexing question of the suppression of the Slave Trade. This we do with much diffidence, as,—although in furtherance of that great object,—we were not actually employed against slavers; so that we can only give impressions of its baneful operations in the interior, and from consideration of the broad principle of the case. Some of our readers may think this beyond our province, and others that it is superfluous, inasmuch as any person may draw his conclusions from the latter source as we have. It may, however, be of some advantage to the public to have the facts stated in a simple form, and, at all events, it will be important as preparatory to the suggestions we propose to make.

We should much exceed our limits, by drawing largely on the evidence now before the House of Commons, but we have extracted some of the most "*glaring instances*," from the testimony of the best informed*, which we trust will be found to confirm Lord John

* In the year 1787, the number of slaves exported from Africa to the Western World, was 100,000. In the year 1839, it was about the same, or even very much more, as Sir F. Buxton estimated it at 150,000. It fell off to 32,600 between 1840 and 1845; but in 1846 it had reached 64,000, thus proving that the difference is a fluctation,

Russell's assertion, that "to repress the foreign Slave Trade by a marine guard, would scarcely be possible if the whole British Navy could be employed for that purpose*:" and also that of the late Sir T. F. Buxton, that "aggravated suffering reaches multiplied numbers†." Again, the conclusive fact that, "unless the Government of the slave-dealing states, will give their cordial aid in the suppression, the supply of slaves will be according to the demand‡;"

irrespective of the vigilance of the preventive force. In fact, the great falling off was the consequence of the market having been glutted in anticipation of the increased exertions meditated for the suppression; while the renewed activity of 1846 was caused by the alteration of circumstances which caused a greater demand. Further, the yearly average from 1807 to 1846, has been 77,000 and when the immense difference in the extent of the countries requiring the importation of slaves at these two periods is considered, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the trade is very much greater at the present time; and therefore that the abandonment by England of her paramount share has not diminished the traffic; for the Brazils, which at that time imported 25,000, now requires the greater proportion of that whole number.

The average tonnage of vessels employed in the trade is about 170 to 200 tons; and they are mostly inferior built American vessels; three months is the time computed for the passage to the West African coast and the return to Brazils. But by Lord Howden's letter to Viscount Palmerston, dated Rio de Janeiro, 9th February, 1848, and given in Mr. Bandinel's evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons, 18th April, 1848, one vessel had made five successful voyages within the year 1847. Any person at all acquainted with the slave

* *Letter to the Lords of the Treasury*, December 26, 1839.

† Buxton, on the *Slave Trade*, p. 268.

‡ Mr. Bandinel's *Evidence* (Parliamentary Report) on the *Slave Trade*, p. 257.

which, as it is for the specific purpose of labour, will be regulated by certain considerations. But to meet this, the *purveyors* will provide an unlimited

trade will see that the undermentioned price of a vessel is much above the average value, thus:—

Items	£.	s.	d.
1. Cost of a vessel 170 to 200 tons—700*l.* to 1,000*l.*, say	1,000	0	0
2. 15 to 20 men at 100 Spanish dollars each per trip, say	416	13	4
3. Victualling 20 men for 90 days, say	100	0	0
4. Pay of captain 400 Spanish dollars	83	6	8
5. Cost of 450 slaves, each at from 2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*, say 3*l.* each	1,350	0	0
6. Feeding 450 slaves on passage 25 to 30 days	112	10	0
7. Luxuries for the captain, &c.	50	0	0
8. Different contingencies	150	0	0
Total	£3,262	10	0

Supposing out of the 450 slaves thus purchased, only 350 reach their destination, and sell at the common market price of 50*l.*, you have the sum of 17,500*l.*; then deduct the whole outlay of the voyage, 2,262*l.* 10*s.*, the vessel (1,000*l.*) being still forthcoming, there remains a clear profit of 15,237*l.* 10*s.*

According to the manner in which the slave-trade is conducted at present, the articles for the purchase of the slaves are generally sent across to the depôts on the African coast in neutral bottoms. If the vessel is captured, the captain and crew lose their wages, (which are only paid on the completion of the voyage) but as an inducement to take greater interest in the adventure, the captain is generally allowed to bring a few slaves, and sometimes the crew one each, whose passage they pay for at the rate of 8*l.* to 10*l.* Thus a vessel captured with the slaves or slave-cargo on board involves a loss of items 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, items 2 and 4 being saved; which makes the actual loss 2762*l.* 10*s.* So that one successful voyage, landing 350 slaves, and realizing 15,237*l.* 10*s.*, would cover the loss

number, in order that there may be *enough* to spare for death on the long and weary way to the coast, *enough* to die while waiting for shipment, or in the

of $5\frac{1}{2}$ vessels with 450 slaves or slave-cargo (1,350*l.*) for that number in each; and no less than $12\frac{1}{3}$ empty vessels, items 2, 4, 5, being saved.

Let us take the case mentioned by Lord Howden in his Lordship's letter to Viscount Palmerston, dated Rio Janeiro, 9th February, 1843; in which he says: "It is a well known fact that a vessel belonging to this port, made five voyages to the coast during the last year, and landed in safety all her cargoes; at a moderate computation, this single ship must have brought from 2,000 to 3,000."

Now we will suppose 2,500 were landed, each of them valued at the average price 50*l.*, realize 125,000*l.*, equivalent to loss of $45\frac{1}{3}$ vessels full of slaves or slave-cargo; and equivalent to loss of $89\frac{1}{4}$ empty vessels; items 1, 3, 6, 7, 8 only, being lost.

We must also refer to the case given by Viscount Palmerston before the Select Committee on the Slave Trade, 21 March, 1848, wherein his Lordship says, "I have before me a communication made by Sir Charles Hotham to the Admiralty, dated the 7th April, 1847, in which he states, 'On rounding Cape Lopez, the character of the slave trade changes, and the speculation on the part of the Brazilian is founded on the principle of employing vessels of little value, to be crowded to excess with slaves. It is said that one arrival in four, pays the adventure, here it is, therefore, that the traffic assumes its most horrid form; at this moment the 'Penelope' (that was the vessel on board which he was,) has in tow a slaver, of certainly not more than 60 tons, in which 312 human beings were stowed; the excess of imagination cannot depict a scene more revolting.'"

Now we do not hesitate to say that the total cost of such a vessel, and her equipments, wages of captain and crew, provisions for them and the slaves, would not exceed the sum of 1,050*l.*, at very outside, and take the 312 slaves at rather more than

3*l.* each, that makes another 1,000

Total outlay £2,050.

horrible middle passage, or in the repetition of it after having been taken by our cruisers—*enough* to be thrown overboard to avoid capture,—or to die of drowning when wrecked,—so that there may be a sufficient number of survivors, through the unparalleled sufferings of a transatlantic passage, to supply the original demand for labour, in the plantations which furnish our luxuries. No account is here taken of the surplus

Now, if even one-third die, or nearly so, leaving 212 slaves to be landed and fit for market at 50*l.* each, you have the sum of 10,600*l.*, or equivalent to the loss of 6 and a fraction of such full slavers; the items 2 and 4, *i.e.*, wages of captain and crew, being saved to the owner (as before stated) in case of capture, or equivalent to the loss of 14 empty vessels, items 2 and 4, *i.e.*, the wages of captain and crew, being saved to the slave-owner.

In the "Times" newspaper, dated May, 1848, there appears a statement (generally believed to be correct,) "that 5,000 slaves were landed at Bahia in two months, from 13 vessels, (average 384 each ship,) and 7,000 at other places, viz., Campos, Rio Grande, and Rio Janeiro, total 12,000;" now each of these slaves, at the average price 50*l.*, would realize no less a sum than 600,000*l.*, or equivalent to the loss of 217⅓ vessels full of slaves or slave-cargoes for 450 slaves, are as fitted up in scale (1), items 2 and 4, being saved, or equivalent to the loss of 424$\frac{9}{10}$ empty vessels fitted and equipped, as in scale (1), without slaves or slave-cargo, items number 2 and 4, being saved. By applying this method of calculation to the 60,000 slaves, stated in Lord Howden's letter to Viscount Palmerston, dated Rio Janeiro, 9th February, 1848, to have been landed in the Brazils during the year 1847, we find that the profits on them are equivalent to the loss of 2,124 empty vessels fitted as before shown, and 1,084 with full cargoes of 350 slaves each. Or the profits of one year are equal to the purchase money of one million of slaves! Can it be supposed that any force will arrest the progress of a torrent of such fearful magnitude?—See Dr. Thomson's *Evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, and others.*

which cannot be exported ; humanity shudders at it, but such account will be exacted by an all-seeing God. The excess must be charged to our attempt to suppress the trade by the strong hand, and proves it to be an enormous fallacy and an aggravation of the evil.

The advocates for the continuance of the present system of marine police, persuade themselves that it is effectual; but it is to be feared that they are dazzled by partial successes, which, as compared with the result of a number of years, will be found to be only fluctuations.—The increased efforts are defeated by increased artifices.—Like an attempt to stop the torrent from a mountain, we go on, hoping that the barrier may be raised sufficiently high, but it is overleaped by every accession of flood. We are blinded to the truth by a conviction of the purity of our intentions, and the hopes of ultimate success. Our uncompromising philanthropy will not let us see that we are doing "evil, that good may result." But how great the evil ! and how problematical the result ! Let us imagine an allegorical picture of the subject. Two of the actors are demons ; a third would be thought to counteract their diabolical machinations, but he conspires unwittingly to the same end. They are the Purveyor, the Dealer, and the Suppressor. The two last preside each over a gulph of torture,—they rival one another in stimulating the first to provide victims; —their only contention, which shall obtain out of the increasing supply the greatest number for his par-

ticular vortex; and the only difference between the vortices, is in the one, a certain prospect of a life of toil, with an accompanying portion of comfort, which is not fallacious because interested;—in the other, a dim, indefinable,—and to the victims who are hurried into it,—an inappreciable vista of freedom and happiness. They have no choice; but if they had, they could see no difference in the probationary sufferings. Such anomalies should no longer exist: they recoil on ourselves.

After the sacrifices made by England, for the purpose of repairing the injuries inflicted, she has at least a right to claim the meed of sincerity in her repentance. She may also try to awaken other nations to a sense of their guilt; but remorse at the recollection of her own crimes should guard her against the assumption of infallibility: and if in our strenuous efforts to attain a blessed end we find the road leads wider and wider from it, let us have the magnanimity to retrace our steps to find a safer though a more circuitous path. If we look back on that already trodden, we shall find it too surely indicated by the blood of millions, shed in great part by our efforts, suddenly and violently to cure a gangrene which has been festering for ages.

During four hundred years the knowledge has been spreading in Africa, that the white man required her sons to spend their lives in hopeless and excessive toil to minister to his wants; and he sanctioned the em-

ployment of treachery, rapine, depopulating wars, and the sacrifice of every principle of justice and humanity in order to gain his end. The white man comes to a tardy conviction of his injustice; but the system which has taken centuries to build up, cannot speedily be destroyed; and in the meantime, the previous requisitions are exciting the unhappy race to ruinous fulfilment.

It is only half a century since England, so proud of her exertions in this cause, was more deeply implicated in the practice, than any of the nations which we now denounce with all the virulence and want of charity, customary with those who have tardily come to a knowledge of the error of their ways. The Slave Trade was not only upheld by public opinion in England till 1788, but was encouraged by the Legislature,—enforced by treaties,—and by very stringent orders from the home authorities to the Governors of our West India Islands; who attempted to check the importation of slaves,—not from motives of humanity, but from fear that the unrestricted encouragement given to the "carrying trade" would cause the colonies to be over-supplied with slaves.

About that time, however, the people of England began to be awakened by the philanthropy of a Clarkson and a Wilberforce, to a sense of the enormity of their guilt, and felt a desire to atone for the deep injuries inflicted on the African race by the chief

participation which this country had in the iniquitous traffic. The result was, first, the modification of that trade,—then its total abolition,—finally the emancipation of slaves on the part of Great Britain; with an endeavour to induce other nations to enter at once into the views which we had taken many years to mature. Great exertions by successive Governments, and pecuniary sacrifices by the people of these realms have been made to attain this end; but neither treaties, agreed to in some instances through fear, nor the vigilance of our numerous cruisers, commanded by officers of humanity, as well as talent and experience, aided by those of France and the United States of America, have been able to put a stop to this inhuman trade. On the contrary, it is proved that although it may have been checked in some points, it breaks out in others, the moment the supposed suppression has withdrawn vigilance to other quarters. While, at the same time, the risk of capture and loss has only rendered the mode of *packing!* in small, fast-sailing vessels, and the treatment of the poor wretches on the middle passage, more dreadful and more destructive of life.

But England acquired this conviction gradually:—in 1788 the first check was put to the Slave Trade, by the Bill of Sir William Dolben, which enacted measures for the amelioration of the condition of the victims during their long voyage,—limiting the number of slaves to the tonnage, with the humane object of securing at all events a sufficient space, instead of

the crowding previously resorted to. A struggle of twenty years accomplished for England the honour of the abolition of the trade; in twenty years more, we acceded to the principle of emancipation, which even required other ten years to be carried into effect. Thus England took fifty years to meditate and resolve on an act of justice to Africa; yet we expect other nations—implicated like ourselves—to jump at once to the conclusions we had formed, after such fierce and long struggles between obdurate selfishness and humanity. We urge upon those nations with all the force of diplomacy, backed by the knowledge of our superior power, at once to sacrifice what they believe to be their own interests,—to co-operate with us. But they are in the position which England held in that respect before 1788, when the majority here believed, as they do now in the slave-dealing countries, that our mercantile prosperity was inseparably bound up in the Slave Trade. If the voice of humanity required so many years to make itself heard in England, it is injustice to *ourselves* to suppose, that other nations will listen to it immediately it is propounded to them; and injustice *to them* to assume that they will require longer consideration, if left to their unconstrained judgment; for hitherto our arguments have been from the strong to the weak; and a nation "convinced against its will," is in the same position as an individual;—meanwhile we draw on ourselves all the odium of the overbear-

ing, to the real prejudice of friendly intercourse, mutual interests, and of the question at issue.

In the present circumstances of the case, there are three discordant and antagonistic principles. A powerful nation—recently repentant—is determined at any sacrifice, violently to root out in others the guilt of the Slave Trade, and—signally fails. Certain weaker nations have promised, through fear, and against their present convictions, to co-operate, but are secretly resolved to continue the practice at all costs, and—do it successfully. Moreover, the strong nation having relinquished the compulsory ministration to its wants, will still have them supplied; and with the manifest sacrifice of consistency—her selfish ends are gained.

Since all these anomalous points cannot be reconciled, let us boldly confront the wrong and reject it; while we honestly seek a better course. Every moment that we hesitate prolongs the sufferings of thousands; if therefore it is proved we do infinitely worse than nothing in endeavouring by force to stop the evil, the safest alternative seems to be, that we should turn all our attention towards softening the horrors which have been increased by our ineffectual though well-intended efforts. For this purpose we would humbly suggest, that *other nations be exhorted to tread in our early path of amendment, in* the hope that it may lead them to similar result. *That treaties be made with those nations based on the Bill of*

1788, *with clauses providing for the gradual extinction of the slave trade, the introduction of free labour, and the progressive emancipation of their negroes.*

We may have reason to hope that the first operation of such a treaty would be, to take the traffic out of the hands of the lawless wretches, who now practise it with the maddening spirit of the gamester, and to transfer it to persons more likely to allow their interests to be tempered by humanity. The lukewarm, whose self-love, or love of country, has been arrayed against the cause by our dogmatism, will gradually sympathise with our better feeling, and the high-minded will gain converts. The breathing-time and cessation of the powerful and all-pervading excitement produced by opposition, will enable the selfish to see the advantage of prolonging life by relaxing toil, over the present cruel system of working their slaves to death. Eventually they may come to the understanding that free labour will be the most productive.

Having obtained such a treaty, and measures having been adopted to enforce the provisions of it, England should frankly confess her error by withdrawing the African squadron*, as soon as the existing treaties will permit.

* There are some reasons for supposing that the squadron for the suppression of the Slave Trade might be made more effectual by transferring the blockade from the coast of Africa to that of Brazil, and Cuba. But would this do more than try to obtain relief by turning the victim on his bed of torture?

But although there is a growing conviction that England is enjoying a dearly bought indulgence in her Philanthropy,—and such a change of measures begins to be loudly called for by many, let us not, after such lavish expenditure in trying an experiment, suffer it to appear that we abandon it from motives of parsimony. Of the many hundred thousands of pounds sterling which would be saved*, a portion might well be devoted

* Return of expenses between December, 1838 and December, 1844—(six years):—

Total cost of squadron,	1839	80,393	0	0
,,	1840	101,175	0	0
,,	1841	73,954	0	0
,,	1842	94,026	0	0
,,	1843	88,239	0	0
,,	1844	217,527	0	0
	Six years	655,314	0	0
Average annual expenditure . .		£109,219	0	0
1. Total sum in that time for Mixed Commission Courts . . .		102,899	1	10
2. Illegal captures		1,045	2	6
	Six years	103,944	4	4
Annual average for six years of these two last items		£17,324	0	$8\frac{1}{2}$

Thus making altogether (without taking into calculation the tonnage bounty, bounty on slaves, &c.), an annual cost of 126,543*l.* 0*s.* $8\frac{1}{2}$*d.*, while by return called for by the House of Commons, November 25th, 1847, the expense of the squadron alone for one year, without Mixed Commission Courts, prize bounty, &c., is no less than 301,823*l.*

to some more feasible way of attaining the desired end. No method can be more free from the charge of Quixotism than that of "calling forth the resources of the country." But this must be done on broad and rational principles. The Philanthropist may in his closet, sketch out brilliant schemes for the improvement of Africa, and expect her sons to tread the paths he has traced for them. He will be disappointed, if their progress keep not pace with his sanguine anticipations. As, however, the lofty soarings of philosophy are far above the narrow conceptions of the untutored mind, so is civilized man but ill calculated to enter into the feelings, and except by the most patient care to extend the views of him, on whom the light of reason has not yet dawned. The principal difficulty will always be that the enlarged and cultivated understanding cannot be satisfied with the first vacillating advances of a mind in its infancy.

The man of cold climes legislates for him of a torrid zone, without knowing his requirements, and the first thing done is to unhinge the social system, to reconstruct it on his own incompatible ideas. It is not, however, by the introduction of our uncongenial habits and customs, nor by *partially* encouraging commerce, nor by the establishment of a few schools, nor by the nominal conversion to Christianity of all the Africans whom we have been able to rescue from slavery, that this can be effected, but by calling forth their mental resources.

We will not moot the question of the capabilities of the African race; but this much is clear and incontrovertible, that the Great Arbiter of the destinies of man having placed the whites and the negroes in opposite regios, has given to each, feelings, desires, and energies, as diverse as their climates. *We* are compelled to exertion, to protect ourselves from the inclemency of the seasons,—to force abundance from the reluctant soil. Success in supplying real wants creates and stimulates the gratification of others of artificial growth. The powers which are given to us for this end remain and impel us irresistibly onwards. The essence of being in cold latitudes is necessarily action—a horror of inertion. The watchword is "onwards." With the negro, on the contrary, his climate superinduces a repugnance to exertion; he places his whole happiness in the idea of repose:—His necessities are few, and nature hardly requires solicitation to supply them, but heaps her treasures around in abundance, like trees in the Mahomedan Paradise, that require not the trouble of stretching forth the hand to pluck fruit from the bending branches. The reward of labour in a very small portion of the year, is enjoyment of repose for the remainder. The only voluntary display of energy is that which compels the humble to serve the proud, and has given rise to the ancient and universal system of domestic slavery. The negro may therefore be characterised as having means of gratification exceeding his wants, and the white man

as having wants exceeding such means of gratification as are supplied to him by nature. The struggle and grand object, whether directed by humanity or not, has been to induce the former to furnish the latter with his superabundance.

Hitherto this has been done by the most unjustifiable means. The white man, in the pride of superior mental and physical endowments, has dragged the unresisting negro from his loved repose, and compelled him to minister to his inordinate demands, regardless of the expense of blood and suffering which it entailed. He is now awakened to a sense of his injustice, but his craving still remains; his talisman is still "Onwards." He thinks by persuasion to obtain the same advantages, and bases his hopes on being able to excite in his weaker brother the artificial desires which are the powerful stimuli to his own exertions.

Although the whites may guide, protect, and instruct their dark congeners in their mental minority, there must be a time when they should be suffered to "run alone." That time seems to be pointed out by the physical obstacles which prevent our entering their land, to hold them there in leading strings; and by the palpable failure of all our well-meant exertions for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which holds that land in darkness.

It becomes imperative, therefore, that we try some other means; and what can be supposed to be more

likely to succeed than that of enlisting native energies in their own cause? If a race cannot be entrusted with its own regeneration, it is hopeless for one foreign in sympathies to attempt it.

If we commit the work to men of the same temperament, and with understandings enlarged by cultivation, we shall have an intermediate agency sympathising with both parties. If that fails, what hope is there for the race*? But we will assume, as their warmest advocates assert, that there are men to be found in our colonies capable of undertaking such a task. We come, therefore, to the means we would propose. These may appear bold, but we believe them to be easy of adoption. They are the following:—To establish

1. A colony at the Confluence of the Niger and the Chadda, and eventually on all other accessible rivers.

2. A small Native Military Force; and

3. An African Marine, one limited to ensure the peaceful intercourse of the nations on the banks of the Niger for the furtherance of legitimate commerce,

* In order to carry out the principle to the fullest extent, none but Africans of pure race should be employed; but as it is doubtful at present whether such can be found sufficiently prepared for the task, it may be expedient to begin the experiment with the mixed race or Mulattos, who inherit the *prestige* of the white men.

and the enforcement of the treaties already entered into for the suppression of the Slave Trade in the river.

A principal feature in this plan, is the proposition to establish an African Force, the officers of which should be natives, holding commissions, with local rank, and the sons of native chiefs should be persuaded to enter our army and navy, with a view of educating them for the service. This would be offering an inducement to advance in civilization, which they never before have had; and such a boon should only be limited by their capability. As it is very clear from all the attempts that have been made, that white men cannot serve in that country without great sacrifice*,

* Annual ratio of mortality from disease among seamen on different stations, viz.:—

South America	7·7	per 1000 per annum of men employed.
Mediterranean	9·3	,,
Home station	9·8	,,
East Indies	15·1	,,
West Indies	18·1	,,
Coast of Africa	58·4	,,

(Vide Dr. Bryson's *Report on the Climate and Principal Diseases of the African Station*, page 178.) Thus putting to one side altogether the known injury to health, and shortening of life, which results in nearly every case from service on the African coast, we find the statistical return of mortality on that station to be more than seven times as great as on the South American Coast, six times as great as the Mediterranean or home stations, four times as great as the East Indies and China, and three times as great as that of the sickly West Indies.

If we extend this to the Niger Expeditions, we shall find the first expedition, under Lander, to have lost 308·5 per annum; the second

we ought to use the means which are adapted to the end.

If the plan here proposed be good, it would be very much increased in efficiency, if carried out to an extensive scale; that is, by pursuing a similar system on several rivers at the same time. For instance, if we had such posts on the River Volta, the Niger, the Cross or Old Calabar, the Màdiba ma Dualla or Camaroons, with depôts at the mouths of the rivers,—communication might be easily established between them,—the three last especially, which might in time be extended far into the interior. Other rivers might eventually be so occupied, as the Gaboon.

In order to maintain discipline among the coloured officers, &c., as well as to prevent them from falling back into the barbarism of the surrounding nations, the forces, military and naval, should be occasionally transferred from one station to another, communicating at certain seasons with some established authority, or with the Home Government; and after a certain period of service, they might be allowed to retire to whichever settlement they should choose.

We do not contemplate the establishment of a mere model farm, but the foundation of a colony; having within it all the elements of native society,

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or Government expedition would not differ much from this, therefore the danger to human life in the Niger is more than thirteen times as great as on the coast, and about a hundred times as great as on healthy stations.

acquainted with the usages and advantages of European civilization, which they might modify and assimilate to good customs of native growth, which are not wanting.

Thus, for instance, we should have a civil governor, a chaplain, with a certain number of catechists and schoolmasters; jurists, who, being acquainted with English law, should confer with the dignified Lobo, chief judge of Iddah, and others, with a view to the improvement of their laws, rather than the exclusive introduction of ours; the military and naval commanders, medical officers, &c., some merchants, artificers in various trades, with a sufficient number of agricultural and other labourers.

A society so constituted, of men of colour, who are eligible to every grade, would have all the elements to command respect and imitation.

As this is proposed to be a British colony, it should be under the strict superintendence of the Colonial Office, in order to prevent the dangerous anomalies which would creep in, by permitting on the one hand a premature independence; or, on the other, the chances of their falling back into the barbarism of the surrounding nations: and by having constantly to report their proceedings to superior authorities, the officials would be restrained in any tendency to tyranny, and encouraged in setting the example of civilization. To this end, it is indispensable that the territory and colony be under the British sovereignty.

This has been so ably shown in the letter of Dr. Lushington and Sir T. F. Buxton to Lord John Russell, 7th August, 1846, (see Appendix, vol. i.,) that it is unnecessary for us to dwell further on it, except on a point which is not adverted to by them, but in which we shall be supported by all those who know the river; namely, that all our efforts will be unavailing, unless we have the power to say, "there shall be no wars on the banks of the Niger within reach of the British flag." To attain this most desirable end, we can safely assert, that the mere declaration would be sufficient, if the existence were known of a limited force such as we propose.

Our purpose is not the acquisition of dominion, therefore the small territory purchased from the Attàh of Iddah would be amply sufficient, and would afford space enough for the experiment of cultivation by free labour, as an example to surrounding nations,—prædial slavery being completely eradicated from such territory, without attempting to interfere with it in our neighbours. For the defence of this settlement, one hundred well-disciplined men from our African regiments, together with a certain number of inhabitants—enrolled as militia—and two or three small lightly armed steamers, would not only be a sufficient force, but also to preserve all the nations within reach, from the horrors of war, and thereby be a great means of suppressing the Slave Trade, not only on the river, but to a wide extent on its banks, especially if aided

by the independent chiefs, who would gladly enter into defensive alliances with us;—with the exception of the Filatahs, who might easily be kept in order, as far as their operations on the river are concerned.

"None, however, but a government establishment can pacify the river; or," as the natives say, "clean the road of the Filatahs." Most of the ills of the defenceless Pagan negroes are to be ascribed to these restless marauders; for although, to her disgrace be it spoken, Africa has always been ready to sell her sons, yet these pests of society are the actual chief supporters of the Slave Trade, in its present aggravated state. They make excursions every season into distant as well as neighbouring nations, for the sole purpose of enslaving the unfortunate inhabitants; and the mighty Quorra affords a ready means of sending them to their destiny, the realities of which, sad as we know them to be, fall very far short of the vague anticipations of the poor victims. The example of the Filatahs is followed by other negro princes, and even by individuals, so that the from one end to the other of this noble stream the social system has been shaken to its very centre, and kept in a continual state of *catalysis:* for in these depopulating wars, the voice of fraternal and even parental affection is less heard than that of the fiendish excitement of the slave dealer.

The natives looked upon our presence in the river, even during the first mercantile expedition, as the means of putting a stop to this melancholy state. At

Egga, for instance, the high priest called a meeting of all the principal inhabitants on the subject, at which it was readily agreed to furnish us with men, money, and provisions to any extent,—in which all the towns and villages would cheerfully have joined,—if we would remain and protect them from the Filatahs,—if we would undertake to 'clean the road.' The accomplishment of which would be as easy as it was desirable. We pointed out the impossibility, in the then exhausted state of our resources, for us to comply with their wishes, but held out hopes that at no distant period they might be attended to; and, although they have not been in a formal manner laid at the foot of the British throne, by ambassadors from this oppressed people, praying for a defensive alliance, the appeal is not the less forcible; and it comes from a people who, of all others in Africa, would, from their industrious habits, most amply repay the protection afforded to them.

Captain Trotter, in his short intercourse with the Chief of Egga, found him so completely under the influence of the Filatahs, many of whom were, as spies about his court, that he dared not openly to discuss the subject of the abolition of the Slave Trade, though at a private interview he ardently expressed his wishes in furtherance of our object*. He doubted the concurrence of the Filatahs, as they are too much interested in the maintenance of disorder; and he would not

* See page 99, vol. ii.

send a message to the King, lest he should suspect him of intriguing with the white men.

Since that time Mr. Beecroft has made another visit to Rabbah, and found it in ruins. The coalition which Dr. McWilliam* heard was meditated had been successfully planned and executed. The branch of the Filatah bandits which had their stronghold at Rabbah has been humbled. But the snake was only "scotched," and probably ere this they have, with the assistance of their lawless compatriots at Sakatùh, taken fearful vengeance on the less warlike Nufi people, their depopulating "razzias" may be carried on to a greater extent than ever, and they may even have marched to conquest of Iddah, as they have long threatened.

The plan for a colony which we have sketched may perhaps give alarm to some of our economists; but if it should be decided,—what appears to us to be absolutely necessary, in order to stay the course of the gigantic evil—to withdraw the squadron from the Coast of Africa, an immense saving will be made annually; and if only a very small portion of this be devoted to the payment of salaries of the officials, there will be an amount of capital never before circulated in that part of Africa; moreover if to this we add the expenses of works to be undertaken by Government,—such as the erection of a fort, church, school-house, government-house, barracks, hospital, and a bazaar,—

* See page 107, vol. ii.

an immense but natural stimulus would be given to internal legitimate commerce. As the only medium at present known in Africa is by cowries or barter, it would be advantageous and economical to adopt this method at first in payment, and salt would be found, perhaps, the simplest and most profitable article.

Unfortunately we have always met the African with our own preconceived notions, and in requiring his adoption of them, we have remained in utter ignorance of what he may have of good, inherent in his own institutions. It is but fair to imagine that they may be suited to him, as he is to the condition in which it has pleased God to place him.

The several expeditions into the interior of Africa have proved that the people there, are far from being devoid of civilization. That they have, in fact, institutions and tendencies which, if fully developed, would aid much in healing the wounds which have been inflicted by the perversion of them. They have justice, which lends its hallowed name to the worst of purposes;—and they have commerce, which is absorbed by the most ruinous of all speculations,—the sale of their fellows.

In endeavouring "to call forth the resources of the country," we should therefore ascertain what materials we have to work upon, which are not inconsiderable if rightly developed. First, a way has been opened to the heart of the continent, whereby there is easy communication with a great variety of nations hitherto

known hardly by name, and among the tendencies of the people there is an established idea of justice, and the essential character of all is decidedly commercial. "Kings, priests, warriors, down to the meanest slaves, all are traders in Africa, and although this ruling propensity has been perverted to the worst of purposes, it may be turned to the best. Every important consequence, therefore, that we can hope to attain, whether it be the encouragement of industry, the extension of useful arts, or the propagation of true religion, must attend our endeavours in proportion as we strike powerfully, but with judgment, on that chord which already vibrates in the whole length and breadth of the land*.

While it cannot be too strongly asserted that man in a state of bondage will never arrive at the dignity for which he was intended by his Creator,—it may be a subject of prudent consideration,—of expediency,—whether the very mitigated form in which it is exhibited in Africa may not be used as a transition between the aggravated state it has been brought to by civilized man, and perfect emancipation in the land which gave it birth; where the sudden accomplishment of such an object, *if possible*, would be attended by a complete dissolution of every social tie, a paralysis of all incentive to good, and leading inevitably towards anarchy. Whereas by exciting the

* Captain Allen's MS. Narrative of the First Expedition.

native chiefs and possessors of domestic slaves to employ them in the cultivation of cotton, sugar, &c., a powerful competition might be raised against the cruel exactions of the foreign slave-owner: and although as a necessary consequence of the less amount of exertion under his mild native task-masters, the individual produce would be less, the amount might be made up by the greater extent of country, and by a population not requiring the artificial means of keeping up, resorted to in the Brazils, where at the same time their supplies would be cut off. The example of free labour in the British settlement would not be lost on the surrounding nations, but might be the means gradually to remove the blot of slavery altogether from Africa.

The establishment of a large and commodious bazaar at one settlement would ensure protection to commerce, and would render it the emporium of Central Africa. For a long while, however, we believe that there would not be such a remunerative trade as to justify the immediate intervention of speculators in England. But the petty dealings of the settlers and the stimulus given to native merchants or Dilàls, by buying up *all the produce they bring*, would cause accumulations that might be worth their attention, especially if a company of philanthropists, such as composed the former agricultural society would enter into it with this prospect of loss in the outset.

A better system of canoe-traffic might be introduced

with the assistance of Krumen, and a small steamer to run up and down, and facilitate their transit by towing. It is true that this practice would be running counter to the prejudices of the natives, who never allow the traders of other nations to trespass on their waters; but it might, by an occasional payment of "port dues," be broken through; or by a few trifling presents, the freedom of the navigation of the river might be secured for all nations. A clause to that effect was indeed introduced in our treaties with Obi and the Attàh of Iddah.

"With regard to commercial transactions* on a large scale, it is our firm belief that in the present state of the manners and customs of the people, and the imperfectly known resources of the country, the hopes of speculators will be inevitably wrecked unless their enterprizes be based on very different principles, and with a view to remote repayment. Our arts and manufactures must be introduced to the interior not by the present tardy and demoralizing means of intercourse with the coast, nor by dazzling the natives with a transient display of them in short-lived and disastrous attempts to penetrate to nations which have been heretofore cut off from the knowledge of them. But the advantages which may result to and from the population of Africa by our intercourse with

* Captain Allen's MS. Narrative of the First Niger Expedition.

them, must be prospective, remote, and dependent on the manner of opening such intercourse."

"Under all these circumstances it is quite evident that no undertaking formed by private individuals for purposes purely commercial can prosper in the interior of Africa. That consequently no establishment there can thrive unless it originate with Government, and be under its immediate protection and authority."

"The prejudices of the Africans will doubtless eventually give way; the talents and energies they may possess will be developed when they witness among themselves a community formed of their own countrymen, rescued by humanity from a condition the peculiar nature of which is invested by their superstitious fears, with vague and indescribable terrors. The very existence of such a community, exalted as it would be in its own estimation, and in the enjoyments of the benefits of civilization, would excite among its neighbours a desire to participate in those blessings and would be at once a normal or model society, gradually spreading to the most remote regions and calling forth the resources of a country rich in so many things essential to commerce, might change the destinies of the whole of Western Central Africa, and would not be liable to the local disadvantages which may interfere with the prosperity of the colony of free blacks which the Americans have established at Liberia."

Another great and glorious effect of the existence of

such a colony would be to counteract the horrible Slave Trade, which still rears its hydra head, assuming a more atrocious aspect from every endeavour to put it down. The same local advantages which have facilitated the transit of slaves from all parts of the interior will afford the most effectual means of putting a stop to it, viz.: the two noble rivers which traversing so large a portion of Soudan, give ready means of communication with the coast, to all the nations on their borders.

The idea of the colony which has here been laid before our readers was conceived on the spot which is recommended for its location—surrounded by the beautiful scenery of the Confluence of the Chadda and Niger—during the first Niger Expedition, and laid before the Admiralty, by Captain Allen, on his return* to England, though it is here more fully developed; and it differs from the original in the proposition to employ the African race only, if any can be found qualified for undertaking so great a task. It may by some be considered a hopeless experiment, but unless the friends of Africa are much deceived, it will give an opportunity for the expansion of native intellect, which must be productive of benefit on the race generally. But whether capable or incapable, the agency of the native African has never yet been fairly tried. Hitherto benevolent legislators for Africa have sketched

* Report to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, October 1, 1834.

by their firesides, some very plausible theories and plans, and they have found,—in the hot-bed of premature culture,—plants which seemed fitting instruments to warrant the warmest hopes of success; but like infant prodigies these have generally failed in the result, to justify their anticipations. The fault appears to us to be in the fact, that we have constrained the precocious and half-formed agents to see with our understandings, and to work with our methods, expecting at the same time that the race to be benefited should readily appreciate the good we propose to them.

It is, however, of no use attempting to work on the untutored mind with abstract principles. We submit that the converse of this method would be more likely to succeed, namely, that we should take the African and his institutions as they are, and after ascertaining what is good in them, bestow our utmost exertions on their full development and improvement.

The success will depend on circumstances, on which we cannot now decide the value;—the failure will only be the loss of some *few thousands* of English money in a cause in which we have lavished *millions;* but at all events it will be carried out on a grand principle of justice hitherto denied; and as such we submit it with all deference to higher judgments.

APPENDIX.

VOCABULARIES OF THE EDEEYAH,

DUALLA, OR CAMEROONS, BIMBIA, AND FISHMEN LANGUAGES.

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a is sounded as in father		*au* is sounded as *ow* in how	
e	„ there	*g* hard	„ get
i	„ ravine	*j* soft	„ jet
o	„ more	*ng* initial	„ ring
u	„ flute	*ch*	„ church
ai and *y*	„ time	*hh* as a strong aspirate.	

In the vocabulary of the Fishmen dialect those marked K are of the proper Kru.

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Again		Di-pa-pi		
Always		Visy-visy		
Above		Moni		
Alone		Inuto-ililli		
An axe	I-wŭl-lă	Undoh	I-ūn-dŏh	Tŭ-ăh
Aunt		Ai-ya		Mīn-dĭ-ā-yū
Arm	Lū-bŏh	Dia-vesi		Sŏh (K)
Anchor	I-dī-ŏ			
Ant (black)	Sān-năn-nă	Son-no	Sōn-nŏ	
Ant (white)		Chir-iki		
Able	Bū-bū-bō-bŏh	Yn-gina		
Absent	Echĭ-ym	It-tette		
Accidental	Aī-tĕl-ĭm-wāidĭ			
Acid	Kīs-sĭ	I-pu-ma		
Active	Bā-lā-pă			
Aged	Sŏ-bĭ-ōl-lălı	Mi-dun		
All	Tŭ-yĕ-mā-ă	Visy-visy		
Angry	Inchĭ-āl-lă	Awa-pilli		
Artful	Bȳs-sĭ-ĭ			

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Any one	Wā-rĭ-ēbă			
Arrow	. .	. .	Dī-cōn-gŏh	
Abandon	Eehī-ўm			
Abscond	Ahŭ-bī-hĭ .	Iqui-mi		
Abuse	O-ī-kă . .	Quata-bobry		
Accept	O-ŏ-pī-ă .	Anungo		
Accompany	E-sā-că . .	Beso-alla		
Accuse	Wī-ă-păl-lĭ-ēllŏ			
Accustom	O-hī-ă			
Acknowledge	Ensĭ-ēl-lāllŏ			
Admire	Wī-wēbwĭ-lōbŏ			
Adorn	E-bāhĭ			
Advise*	Nŏ-pīmă-lāl-lŏ-lī-ă-pāl-ă-lĭl-lĭ	Til-li-u-a		
Affirm	Nă-hū-dī			
Agitate	I-krāhī			
Agree	Tū-lă-hū-dĭ			
Aim (to take)	Lō-pēl-lă			
Alarm	Tū-wĕ-sād-dĭ			
Allude	Nē-kī-hă			
Alter	Rī-bĕ-rā-hĭ			
Amuse	O-pūs-să			
Anchor (to)	Dīā-hĭ . .	Di-a		
Answer	En-nī-ŏ .	To-po		
Appear	Cān-ūl-lŏ			
Approach	Kō-pī-ă-ēllŏ			
Ask	Nō-hī-ă			
Assemble	Bwā-lă			
Astonish	Al-ăl-ă-ām .	Tini-myso		
Attempt	Nālĕ-kī-hă			
Awake	O-ĭ-pū-lă			
Add	. .	Nanga-su		
About	. .	Son-na-no		
Associate	. .	. .	. .	Tō-pŭ
Bridge	. .	. .	Bē-lĭ . .	Sēn-nĕ-nī
Branch	Bā-hĭn-năh .	Nei-Kongo	. .	Brrhah
Bed	. .	Nunga .	I-nūn-găh .	Qū-ăh
Bottle	. .	Ipousi .	I-lŭ-ĕ-yăh .	Sū-rāh
Basket	E-tū-kă .	San-gar .	Mō-cū-tăh .	Tū-bŏi
Bell	. .	I-eng .	. .	Bŭgrĕh
Box	. .	Limbi .	I būngŏh .	Broūh

* *i.e.*, to give advice to a person.

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Bag		Mi-y-onta	Mō-cū-lāh	Broūh
Book*		Calla-tu	Cā-lăh	Kīn-nĕ-nēh
Book (juju)			Bŭ-lĕ-wē-lō-bŏh	Dī-frŭ
Bullet	Bī-hȳn-nă	Bol-la	Lō-bō-nĭ	Pūndĭ
Bow			Yān-gō-ăh	
Boat				Blĭ-wĭ
Boy	Bŏlaĭ-būbĭ	Muna-monni		
Brother	Bū-nŭ-ū-ŏm	Munna-mona	Nān-yān-gāmĭ	Nī-ĕ-ŭ
Blacksmith				U-mū-nă
Body (the)	O-lŭ-tŭ	Dibum		O-fŏ-ēh
Boue	Uh-hă	Is-si		Pwāh
Blood	Bā-nă	Mi-a		Nū-mŏh
Beard	E-sĕd-dŭ	Mas-salla		Fē
Back	N-na	Bau-sa		Kēh
Bosom	I-āchă	Wan-ga		Taĭ-pō-rŏ
Belly	Bū-ĭ-lā	De-bum		Kŭr-rī
Breath	E-hūl-lă	Dongi		O-hē
Blind, from disease	A-lū-rē-nū-kŏ	En-dima		O-dōh
Beads	Tū-pŏt-ŏ-pŏt-ŏ	Mi-sanga		W'rri
Button				Sū-tāh
Bullock (wild)	Encŏpŭ	Yaca		Brĭ
Baboon	Mū-cho	Mison ma kirma		Dūm-bā-lŏh
Bird	Sī-nō-dĭ	Ben-nar		
Boa (snake)	E-rūkŭ-rūkŭ			
Beef (venison)	En-na-bă	Yama-yara		
Bride		Sombo		
Boil (a)		I-tongo		
Bad	Bū-săl-ā-bĭ	Bobi		
Bald	Inch-ĭ-ānŏ	Di-banya		
Beautiful	Bēb-wĕh-lō-bŏh	Bam-bane		
Bitter	Achi-wēb-wăh	Jun-gy		
Blind (adj.)	Achĭ-ēl-lăh	Dimi		
Bold	Būkĕ-ī-wēb-wăh	Abirambo-bombo		
Brave	Idem	Abim-bua		
Busy	Bōyĕh-bĭ-lākŏ			
Bake	Nō-ēt-tă			

* This among most Africans means any written paper.

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Barter	O-rū-tă	Yungi		
Bathe	O-āb-bŏ	Iocarri		
Bear (v)	O-āb-lă			
Beat	Tū-wō-pĭ			
Beautify	E-bā-hī			
Bread		Keoso		
Breakfast		Da-idiba		
Becalm	Aīhĭ-bū-lōkŏ	Got-ittili		
Beckon	Pū-lū-hŏ	Bira		
Beg	Nō-ītă ōllĭ	Jagua		
Behold	O-ĕl-lā-lă			
Belong	Nī-ākĕ-lō-kŏ			
Bend	Kō-tō-tă			
Bestow	Pū-rā-hĭ			
Bind	Tū-ā-kĭ	Angi		
Bite	Lūă-tū-aĭ	Acoco		
Blame	O-tās-sĭ-līl-lĭ	Bambo-oa		
Blaze	O-ēl-lă			
Bleed	O-lākĕ-ēăh	Asurma-mia		
Bless	Tō-lūl-lĭ			
Blind, (v)	Tŭăkĭ-ō-bāssŏ-wāi-hĭ			
Block up	Lā-hăn-nāi-hĭ			
Blossom	O-būl-lāi-hĭ			
Blow	Hū-lāi-hĭ	Ungirry		
Blow the nose	Bī-nā-hĭ	Naimbi pymba		
Boil	Lā-pāi-hĭ			
To Borrow anything (v)	Empăllĭ-ēllĭ-ōllĭ-ēllŏ-ēllă-nānkĭ			
Bottle (v)	Lē-bĭ-aī-hĭ	Pouissi (noun)		
Bow (v)	Kō-kō-tă			
Break (v)	Bē-tā-hĭ	Yamassi		
Breathe	Pū-hūl-lă	Su-vuy		
Bring	Pwā-lă-hū-ŏ	Bamba		
Broil	Bāb-ā-ăi			
Bruise	O-pāb-bŏ			
Brush (v)	O-bŭ-lāi-ĭ	Tu-ta		
Burst	E-pōb-bĭ			
Build	Tū-băi-ī-bū-tă	Longa		
Burn	A-hēd-dĭ	Ki-ma		
Buy (v)	Twē-ŏ-tāi-lĭ	Sanda		
Butter		Musa-ma yama		

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Baft (cloth) .	. .	Duto		
Black . .	. .	Mun-do		
Barefoot .	. .	Myndi-titti		
Broad . .	. .	Ico-co		
Bribe . .	. .	Showir-my-langa		
By and bye .	. .	Talla-son		
By day .	. .	Su		
By night .	. .	Bube		
Before . .	. .	Busso		
Behind .	. .	Bussa		
Beneath .	. .	Assa		
By the side .	. .	Ipasse		
Badly . .	. .	Bobrison		
Bull (a) .	. .	Momi ma yara		
Creek . .	. .	Miraba-idari	Mō-pĭ .	Nīmbŏ
Cloud . .	Lŭbācō . .	. .	Mī-in-dŭ .	Nūc māh
Corn . .	. .	Bassi . .	. .	I boh
Country .	Mȳlŏ-ōpwă-ōbă-wȳllĭ	. .	Wāngăh .	Bīl-wīh
Clay . .	Bī-tŏ-kō .	Via		
Covering	. .	. .	. .	Dō-pūh
Cup . .	. .	. .	Dī būn dĭ .	Bōi
Cork . .	. .	Du . .	I-lŭ . .	Kū rŭ
Calabash .	E-hŏ . .	Biquilym .	. .	Kā-yăh
Candle .	. .	Musama-ya-mina	I-trŭ-iăn	
Cannon .	. .	Icossi . .	Caŭ-sĭ	
Canoe . .	Wā-ā-tŏ .	Bolah .	Bō-lăh .	Tŏh
Child . .	Bō-laĭ . .	Muna .	Mō-kū-tŭ .	Dīb-wĭ
Countryman	Tŭ-prĕihĭ-wĭlăi	. .	. .	Năt-rā-nĭa
Chief (a) .	E-rĭ-iō-īo-nŏ .	Sango-boa		
Chief Priest .	Bŏtă-kīm-ŏ .			
Carpenter .	Lī-iă-iū-nă .			
Charm (a) .	Bū-ā-ŏ . .	. .	. .	Dī-bŏ-wāf-rĕ
Cheek . .	. .	Inalama .	Ditamma .	Dīk-wĕh
Chin . .	Bīcŭ-bīcŭ .	Iburu .	Iketuh .	Tē-tă
Claw (a) .	Dīkōtŏ . .	Myndi .	. .	Bŏh
Cough (a) .	Ekōnkŏ-aŭm .	Iya sossi .	. .	Okū-brĕ
Curtains .	. .	Dibato-cumi-muyo		
Chair, or stool	Em pampă .	Kunda .	Ihāmbŭ .	Wī rĕ-rēh
Cloth (a) .	Lū-ăh . .	Drbati .	. .	O-wĕr-rī (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Cap (a)	. .	Ikoto		
Cat . .	Bush-cat, wild-cat, Chī-păh	Syngi .	Fū-ĕh .	Qūēh (k)
Cow . .	. .	Mammi ma yara	. .	Sī-ŏh (k)
Cold (a) .	I-bō-pĭ . .			
Cock (a) .	Bū-teŏ-kă .	Momi-ma-uba	Mō-me .	Kū-Kū (k)
Crow . .	En-cā-hă .			
Careless .	Sē-kĭ . .			
Cheap . .	Dīk-wăh .	Idolli ma toni		
Clean . .	I-lū-dĭ . .			
Clear . .	E-wēh-wĕ			
Coarse . .	O-īk-wăh			
Cold . .	Sīlĕ . .	Goh		
Common	Bū-kĕ			
Content .	E-bŏbŏ-ēn-qŭa-ŏ	Millemma miami		
Cool . .	Sī-lĕ . .	Miloco-loco		
Cowardly .	I-sūl-lăh .	Imbeliibambi		
Cross . .	Bū-săl-lā-hĕ .	Caca buso		
Cruel . .	Idem .	Petil-becima		
Cunning .	Bỹssĭ-ĭ . .	Mina bambo		
Cockroach .	. .	Bitanda .	Bitanda	
Cotton . .	. .	Bungi		
Cloth, crimson	. .	Dibato-di-muta		
Care (v) .	En-tāpiŏ-būl-lāl-lŏ			
Catch . .	Mō-lāb-bŏ			
Chain (v) .	O-tŏ rāb-bŏ .	Occabi		
Chase (v) .	Pū pŭ-rābŏ			
Chatter .	E-lēd-dĭ .	Topo-topo		
Cheat (v) .	Al-lĕ-pĭo-dēd-dĭ	Gi-ba		
Cheer (v) .	Whỹ-dā-dŏ .	Qualla-bam		
Chew . .	O-nŏ-īhi-ă			
Chill (v) .	Oīhī-hī-ēd-dă .			
Choke . .	O-băt-tă-bānnă-īukŏ wīllă	Niki		
Choose .	Eūtāhŭ-rī-lāl-lŏ	Dinna-mapulla		
Chop (v) .	I-pūl-lă-ī-lă-kōk-ā-nŏ	Munga-titi		
Clan (v)				
Clean . .	O-ĭ-bū-dĭ -	Tuta		
Clear (v) .	Al-lĭ-pūllă-ĕ-hūb-bă			

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Close (v) .	Dī-bē-hă			
Coast (v) .	I-chēp-wăh			
Come . .	Mū-ră-pū-lū-ŏ	Ya		
Commaud (v)	Wīl-lă-pīn-nÿsă			
Conceal .	Lē-pīl-ĭ-ōl-lĭ .	Uta		
Conduct (v) .	Prō-kō-tă-pē-āl-lă			
Cook (v) .	Tŭ-lāpĕ -	Gipi		
Cool (v) .	O-ĭhi-bĭ-ēd-dăh			
Cork (v) .	Rū-lē-ŏ . .	Du		
Cough (v) .	E-kōnkĕ-aŭm	Mossia-iya-eossi		
Count (v) .	Sō-să . .	Langai		
Contrary .	. .	Ittiti-capo		
Carry . .	. .	Bamba		
Catch cold .	. .	Nunga-goh		
Censure .	. .	Topo-bobri-oa		
Charge (take)	. .	Nungo		
Copper .	. .	Inuno		
Cord . .	. .	Miynga		
Cover . .	. .	Krum		
Crow (v) .	. .	Uba-ilongi		
Cry . .	. .	Mia bymbi		
Cure . .	. .	Wanga		
Curse (v) .	. .	Dipauma		
Cut . .	. .	Kai		
Demon .	Mōh-wăllā-bī .	. .	Elīmbăh .	Dē-cū-bŭ
Devil . .	As above .	Usu . .	As above .	Cu
Darkness .	Bū-chĭo .	Mu-titi .	Bū-tīnĭ .	Hī-răh
Day . .	El-bēn-nĕ .	Supau .	Wū-nă-bōcŏ	Un-dōh
Dry season .	E-chŭ-kŏ .	Lui . .	Bū-nă-bōtăm	Yī-rī-băh
Day after to-morrow	Lōblŏ-ībāh .	Idiba-suba .	Yā-kēkĕ	
Day before yesterday	Lŏbĭ-lō-bītăh .	Suba-a-tomba	Nāsĭ . .	Nymā-mōh
December .	. .	. .	. .	Morocho (K)
Deaf . .	A-lā-rī-būtŭ .	Dau-hi .	. .	O sū (K)
Dumb . .	Hŭ-ŭm-mā .	Bonki .	. .	O-sŭ-mē-bŏ(K)
Dysentery .	E-lŭ-rē-bū-hūn-nŏ	Acuba-lubi .	. .	O-krĭ-īkrā (K)
Dropsy .	. .	Emboa-bunbi	. .	O-kĭm-bōāh, K
Doctor (a) .	. .	Potini .	. .	Drhiu (K)
Dog . .	Umpō-ăh .	Bau . .	Umbăh .	Bwi (K)
Deer (small)	Sechi . .	. .	. .	Fīlătāmbă (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Deer (large)	Chō-ŏh			
Duck	Eng-qŭa	Iliba	Eū-gō-sŏh	Bāh-pŭ (K)
Damp	Achĭ-sĭl-lĭ			
Dangerous	E-ă-sāl-lăh			
Dark	Būchiŏ	Mu ititti		
Dead	Ob-wăh	Mawa		
Dear	Rūtă-rōbŏ			
Deep	Bōn-nē-ŭh			
Different	At-ā-ăm	Ititi-capo		
Direct	E-ĕttā-ĕ-qūachŏ			
Dirty	Bītōkŏ	No-sirangi		
Distant	Otŏ	Tucu		
Double	O-rĭ-pāi-lă	Tala-biba		
Dry	En-īho-kŏ	Gangi		
Dew		Bas		
Dinner		Damisa		
Damage (v)		Disi yangi		
Dance (v)		Engomo		
Danger		Bungo		
Decay		Borro		
Depart		Alla		
Destroy		Yamasi		
Die		Mawa		
Dine		Da-misai		
Disagree		Mutanga		
Discover		Pondimo		
Distribute		Songo-songo		
Divide		Passi-biba		
Double		Bibas		
Dream		Dotti		
Drag		Tua		
Draw water		Tua-miraha		
Dress (v)		Pongo-toki		
Drink (v)		Myngo		
Drown		Awa miraba		
Dry		Jangi		
Evil	Achī-bwēb-wĕh	Bobi	Mōtă-būbĭ	Dĕc-cū-bŭ
Earth	Bō-băh	Minyangarro	Mān-jăh	Wa-ou-ri
Evening	Wātŏ	I biamo	Mōmbĭ-sē-mŭnă-rībă	Wī-rĕh
Ebb-tide	Bōwăh	Miraba girru	E-bĭ-bāugĭ	Mōmānĭ
Every day	Okŏ-măh	Risi risi		Tī-ū-ў
Eye	Nōk-kŏ	Miso	Lisso	Gī (K)
Eyebrow	Brū-brūd-dŭ	Ki-kili		Gī-nā-nĭ (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Eyelash	I-pāp-pă	I pupa-misu	. .	Gĭ-wā-wĭ (K)
Ear	U-lūt-tŭ	Matui	Ditoh	Nūg-wĕh (K)
Elephant	. .	. .	En-joco	Dū-āh (K)
Early	Bāccāsŏ			
Easy	E-wāt-tŏ	Ittiti bamasi		
Empty	Aī-sē-chi	Huma-ittiti		
Enough	Okŭ-tōm-ōlĭ	No-mapula-dipapi		
Entire	Sia-si-wullala	Visi visi		
Equal	Achĭ-kōnŏ	Capo		
Evil	Būsălābĭ			
Elephant's trunk	. .	Musunga mi yama		
Ewe	. .	Mami ma bauri		
Eat	. .	Da . .		
Ebb	. .	Yn-benga		
Embark	. .	A-mungi		
End	. .	Aburis		
Enslave	. .	Pory-mac-combi		
Entertain	. .	Mungo-huma-mapuha		
Equal	. .	Capo . .		
Escape	. .	Bombi		
Elsewhere	. .	Humu-dipipi		
Enough	. .	Lon . .		
Fire	Boso . .	Ve-ah	Wē-ăh	Năh
Flood	Bā-ă-pŏh	. .	E-bĭ-tūmbĭ	Fē ōh
Fog	. .	E-tutu	Bārca	Drhu
Flood-tide	Etŭpŏ . .	Mi raba-benga	E-bĭ-tūmbĭ	Nī-ā-nĭ
Fast (month)	. .	. .	. .	A-bō-dŭ
Fast (day)	. .	. .	O-sălă-waŭm	Nē-rў-rŏ-dūh
Friday	. .	. .	. .	Wē-mōh
Farm	E-bīd dĭ	. .	Mūu-dăh	Crī-bŏh
Forest	Bāttĕ-bŏa-ā-bō-ātĕ	Mundu-misi	Lū-bĭ .	Grē-soh
Fetiche man	. .	. .	Mōtă-lōbŏ	
Flowers	Imātĭ . .	Biuru	. .	Pūmŏh
Fork	. .	Masso	Mī-ă-sūh	
Fishing-line	Būsŭdĭ . .	Misunga jobbi	Mū-sīngăh	Păi
Father	Bō-yăim	Sango	Sān-gŏh	Mĭ
Freeman	. .	. .	Cōn-jăh	Sōlī-dŭ
Forehead	E-pūl-lŭ	Bombu	. .	Dīt-oŭ-răh (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Face	Bū-sŏh	Bousu		Gīb-wĕh (K)
Foot	Dīkōtŏ	Itindi-mindi		Bōpĕ (K)
Finger	Bīn-nĕ	Muni		Gē (K)
Feathers	Bī-ĕt-tăh			Swā-nā-nī (K)
Fever	Ebōpĭ	Ididdi		Okāră (K)
Friend	Bÿssăum and Būbĭ	Dikom		Bāi
Fish	Eu-īhu-ă	Su-eh	Lū-ĕh	Nī-nū (K)
Fly (a)		Gingi		Kū-ŭh (K)
Food	Bū-răk-ŏ			
Fat	Bā-hāb-bă	Di ongi		
Far	O-tŏ	Jum		
Fast	Bāccāsŏ and Bē-ūpĭ			
Fearful	Illă-sāllă			
Feeble	E-ău-bō-tŭ	Ittiti-gia		
Few	Wī-ă-wīăh	Ittiti gita		
Fierce	Annābă			
Fine	Wēb-wĕh	Bam		
Firm	Būbŏ-wūl-ō-bŭ			
First	Lōu-chi-ă	Imbusa		
Flat	Obăh-ă-bāt-ă			
Foolish	Sī-ē-kĭ	Ilima		
Fresh	Bahe			
Friendly	Bū-ĭ-saŭm	Soma-dikom		
Full	E-dĭ			
Future	E-lŏ			
Fowl	En-cō-hĕ	U-bah	Cū-băh	
Face (v)		Busu		
Faint (v)		Mawa		
Fall		Cau		
Faster		Tynga		
Fast (v)		Nomada		
Fatigue		Dutu		
Feed		Da and Tapa		
Fear		Bruya		
Feast		Da indiu		
Fetch		Umala-munga		
Fight		Vengi		
Fill		Alundi		
Finish		Aburis		
Flog		Dipa		
Fly (v)		Amapuma		

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Fold up		Outiri		
Forget		Avangasi		
Free (make)		Unga		
Formerly		Bai-bai		
God	Rū-pĭ	Aluba	Lōbăh	Nisrah
Good	Būūb-wŏh	Bam	Būllĭ	En chāngă
Grass	Tŭ-illă-lō-qŭam	Bikoko		Pī-rĕ
Gunpowder		Gisou	Pŷndĭ	Pū-mūnŭ
Green	Wĭlŏ-wilŏ			
Gums (mouth)		Yama-mi-dumba		Nĭ-ĕn-tī-mē, K
Gown				N'nū-sēqūi, K
Gay	Nōk-ŏ-būb-bŏ			
Gentle	Bū-tū-kŭ			
Giddy	E-sĕ-kĭ			
Glad	Omă-bīhŏ			
Good	Sēs-sĭ			
Great	Illĕ-kō-lĭ-ōtĕ	Yndim		
Greedy	Sē-rūpă-rūpă	Ilima		
Guilty	Bōnōkŏ-ō-wă			
Gun	Etātă	Ungaui	Cau-si	Pu
Girl		Muua muto		
Goat	Umpōdĭ			
Goods		Bima		
Give		Onta		
Go		Amala		
Grow		Ama yala		
Gradually		Son-son		
Heaven	Lūbācŏ		Mombi	Yē-ĕu (K)
Hell	Mō wăllābī		Dūmăh	Cŭh (K)
Hour (an)			Ibĭs-căh	Tībĭ nū ūm
Harvest		Ikika-bua bassi	E-bēndĭ	Blȳ-cān nĕăh
House	Ichū-bŏ	Andabo	Dāwŏh	Kāī
Hook	Sī lō-bŏ	Jobbi	Yō-lŭ	Wāī
Husband (n)	Bū lăh	Momi	Mōtŭ	Hāi-nŭ
Headman	Būtūkŭ-bŏ	Bang	Mō-tŭn-dī-nĭ	Mā-păh
Head	E-tū-ă	Milopo	Mūpŏ	Dēb-bŭ (K)
Hair	I-sīl-lă	Iyau	Sowih	N'nūĕ (K)
Heart	Bīāchă	Malimma		Sānă-tībī (K)
Heel	Dīkō-tŭ-nă			Bū sī lăh (K)
Hand	Bī-ēl-lă	Bia		Dī-ĕ-qŭe (K)
Horn	Bēh-hăh	Iongo		Blāmĭ (K)
Hair (goats)	E-sĭ-bă			Mē-ĭ (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Hat	E bū-tă	Iamba		Bā-krāh (K)
Handkerchief				Wū săndī (K)
Hen	Encă-rĭ-ōtă	Mami-ma-uba	Mālĭ	Sō-ŭ-nōh (K)
Hawk (a)	E kō-kă			
Handsome	Wēb-wēh			
Happy	Nāmă bī hŏ	Ga bam		
Hard	A-bōb-bŭ	Bambi		
Heavy	O-rī tă			
Healthy	Mī-bī-hŏ	Diboa ittiti		
High	Cōpĭ-ā-bōkŏ	Moni-gita		
Honest	Bō ēt tă	Nosybi-giba		
Hot	Hū-wĕ	I dyd di		
Hungry	En-gāl-lă	Gi		
Hill		Aundi		
Hoe		Dibu		
Horse		Yama		
Honey		Bombo-illi		
Hate		Syngi		
Hear		Masinga		
He is		Iatyn		
Here		Dyn		
Iron pot		Wongo-ma-kara	Yūngŏh	Ple-ăh
Indian corn				Sūh
Juju books			Bū-lĕ-wē-lō-bŏh	Dī-frŭ
Infant	Bōlăi	Muna-yssani	Mō-kū-tū	Dīb rūbĭ
Idle	Epĭ	I bolla		
Ill	Rī-pă	Mabra		
Infirm	Eŏ-bōtŏ			
Interior of country	Bōtē lŏ			
Jealous	A-nāb-bă	No semba tinu		
Joyful	Alāmă-bīhŏ			
Just	A-nŏ-pīn-nĭ	No da huma butto		
Ink		Huma tria callatu		
Iron	E-ā-aŭ	Mokoko		
Ivory		Abango		
Indigo		Mapia		
Increase		Yaca son		
I am		Emba		

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Key	. .	. .	Ibŭ-wāni	Bireh
Knife	Lū-ō-bă	Duendi	Bū-tĭn	
King	O-Kĭchĭ	Ehinga	Eng-bangh	Bŭl-lĭ-ōh
Knee	E-dŭ	Dibunga	. .	Kŭ-rĭ-dĭ bōh, K
Kind	Bōbŏ-wōbŏ			
Kick	. .	Assosymo		
Kill	. .	Bas		
Light	Ochĭ	Mu-ittiti	Mēllĭ	N'nai
Lake	. .	. .	E-bĭ-ān dŏi	Nīntiă
Lightning	Būsŏchĭ	Ria-aluba	Wēăh	Bētĕ-rūh
Leaf	Sĕ-bā-ŭm	Biarki bungo	. .	Hĭ-ū
Lime	. .	. .	. .	On-ă-qūeh
Lamp	. .	I utian	E-pē-mĭ	Kē răh
Lock	. .	Dalli	I-lā-lĭ	Gō-bŏh
Labourer	Bilākŏ	. .	. .	Ob-wep-wai
Lip	Lū-bēb-bŏ	I pupi mid amba	. .	Kă wŏk wai, K
Leg	Lū pŭl-lă	Nundi	. .	Bōh (K)
Lame	O-sū-dă	. .	. .	O-ū-bŭ-na-īu
Leopard	. .	. .	. .	Gī (K)
Large	Bōtă bōtĭ	Yndin diu		
Last	Ennăbĭ-hŏ	Sucanna		
Lazy	E-hĭ			
Left behind	Kō-tā ŭm	Dāā muto		
Light (weight)	At tă rīchĭ			
Like (v)	Achiō-tĭ			
Little	Bo-co-co-no	Yssari		
Like (adjec.)	Achi-ă-kē-nŏ			
Long	Bō-lă-bō-tŏ	Baba		
Loose	A-rībĭ			
Loud	E-hē-ăh	Dui dyndima		
Low	Sȳntŏ-sȳntă	Aniasi		
Lucky	Rū-wăh			
Liver	. .	Banga		
Lion	. .	Engau		
Laugh	. .	Myo		
Lie	. .	Nanga		
Lie down	. .	Nangani		
Lift	. .	Assuma		
Line	. .	Ga mani		
Lock	. .	Cose		
Look	. .	Comba		
Loosen	. .	Unga		
Lose	. .	Yamasi		

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Love		Sonda		
Moon	Rāi yāh	Mári	En-gōn-dah	Obōh
Morning	Obādĭ-che-chu-ŭo		I lĕvē-wōngăh	Nī-rў-ū-rўs-ē rĭ
Mid-day	Bōkŏ	Misi	Nū-ē-sĭ	Wāin chŏ
Midnight	Bōchiŏ-ātĭ	Ti-a-buttu	I bĭ yamŏ	Pўr-ă bī
Month		Mauri mau		Ob-bōd-dŭ
Monday				Nī nā mŏh
Market		Adunu	Dibŏh	Wrhi-ăh
Mortar to pound Indian corn				Sūh
Man (husband)	Bū lăh	Momi	Mō-tŭ	Hāi-nu
Marriage		Dibas		Okū-nŭ
Master	Bū-ўe-ăm	I-ytti		
Man slave		Micombi-momi		Ki
Mouth	Wē-hĕ	Midumbo	Mōtŭmbōh	Wōh (K)
Medicine	Būn-ĭho	Vanga		Gī dī (K)
Musquito	Sībŭ nŏ			Sā-me nē (K)
Monkey	Mōbăh	Ki ma	Sūmbŏh	Gē-gi ri (K)
Mad	A lăd-ĭ cho-hō	Maboa-inju		
Many	Būkĭ-būkĕ	Gita		
Merry	Amă-bī-hŏ			
Mild	Lātă-kāi-dĭ			
Moist	Sīlĕ			
Muddy	Bītōkŏ	Bungi		
Mist		Itutu		
Mug		Mabundi		
Mistress		A-i-ya		
Mutton		Yama-bonni		
Measure		Mina		
Milk (v)		Mi raba		
Miss		Gu-dirri		
Mix		Latta		
Mock		Lua		
Mourn		Ga-debma		
Much		Gita		
More		Saca son		
North	Onnă			
Night	Bŏ chĭo	Butu	Būtuĭ	Tōrŏ
Nail	Entūkŏ	Tonno	Tōnĕh	Bōmăh
Net	Llē ōtĭ	Sippi	Dī-ō tŏh	Tērăh
Nose	Dī-kēk ŏ	Pimba	M'bimbah	Māl ā qŭa (K)
Neck	Ynkŏ	Myngo		Būk-bēr-rĭ qŭeh (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Navel	E che-kŭ	Mitoddi		Kēm-laĭ (K)
Nail (finger)	Bī-ēh-ĕh	Iandi		Di ā-kō-năh, K
Needle		Dundocku		Dĭh (K)
Naked	E-lō-lĭ			
Nasty	Achĭ-wēb-wă	Bobi		
Naughty	Būk ĭ-wēb wăh			
Near	Allŏ	Ittiti Tum		
Neat	I-lū-dĭ			
New	Sī hĕ	Pi ani		
Nice	I-lū-dĭ	Idolli		
Never		Tumtum		
Not yet		Counappi son		
Now		Tatimā		
Oar		Pii canga	Pākĭ	
Oyster	Eāĭhŏ	Kiango		
Oil (palm)	Bita	Musa		
Old	Bū lō-lŏ	Miduu		
Open	I-būl-lă	Ituti cosi		
Opposite	Tū-ĭ-ē tăm	Embusa		
Obey		Singi		
Open (v)		Aduba		
Order		Sangar		
Once		Ungemy		
Plank	Būsĕcă	Bibambo		Tābĕh
Plate		Numgau	Bēsĭ	
Pistol		Mukyi	Mōkĭ	Mām-ā bŭ
Paddle	Encāpĭ	Pyi	Pākĭ	Wār-rŏh
Person (a)	Būyĕh	Momi		
People	Būchă-māma	Batoi		U-lăh
Priest (Jugu)	Bŭyĕh-rŭpĭ			D'rhiou
Priest (chanting)	Bŏtă Kīm-o			
Palm-wine maker	Bū-ĕb-bă	Bato-maliugi		Mēmŏ-pū-yō
Palate	I-āppăh	Moiu midamba		Dad-i-woh (K)
Pit of stomach	Kī-chĭ	Dibum		Nē-tĭ (K)
Pap	A-bēn-ĭli			
Palm of hand	Bī-ēllā-willă	Jiti dra		Quā-qŭid-ni, K
Pig	E-sūllŏ	Qua	En gō-ăh	Boī (K)
Parrot	En cu	Engusu	En gō-sŏh	Kiă-wīrrī (K)
Pale	E-ŏ tē-rī-ă			
Painful	Rū-păh			
Past	Enne bīkŏ	Mabau		
Plain	O-ĕ-lā-lă			

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Poor	Sī bāl-lă	Tui		
Pretty	Wēb wĕh			
Paper		Kalla-tu		
Pepper		Dungo		
Pain		Syssi		
Pay		Mishuri		
Pick up		Maponda		
Play		Olu		
Pour		Kum		
Prepare		Nanga		
Pull		Duta		
Pull down		Duta-assi		
Push		Nymiri		
Put		Ussi		
Palm nut	Nām-mo			
Put down		Tessy ussi		
Queer	O-sō-tăh			
Quick	Bāc-cā-sŏh	Vamasi		
Quiet	Wē-ē-pă			
Quarrel		Evengi		
Raiu	Lōlăh	Buah	Būăh	Nīu-nu
Raiubow		Inunga	Yungŏ	Pȳr-rū
Rainy season	E-sŭ-băh	A pupi	Bū-ā-bŭ	Gē-rŭ
Rains (after the)	Echūcŏ-bō-sŏ	Imbas	Bū-ă-ī-mama	Nī-pē-yĕ
Rice	Cūbă-cūbă			Blăh
Root	Bīă kă	Mianga		Tī bēh
Room		An dabo-yssari	Pā-kăh	Bō-lū-ăh
Roof		Mynnuah	Mū-wi-āndā-woh	Kā-pă-mi
Rope	Bū-sā-pŏ	Mĕ-sing ăh	Mū-sīm-găh	Pē-dĭ
Red deer	Cho-ŏh			
Red earth	Bī-ĕm			
Rare	Obō-bŏ			
Red		I-imcha		
Raw	Sī-hĕ			
Ready	Bwi-sī-ŏ pălĭ			
Real	Lēttĕ			
Rich	Bū-tū-kŭ	Bang		
Right	Sī lēt-tĕ			
Ripe	A-hō-chĭ	Lissura-suli bam		
Rotten	E-lam-wăh	Biborro		
Rough	O-bōh-bŏ			

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Round	Būl-līp ŏ			
Ring (a)	I-ondo			
Raise	. .	Suma		
Read	. .	Muba-callati		
Refuse	. .	No mapula		
Remain	. .	Ga		
Return	. .	Tymba		
Rum	Bāhŭ			
Rise	. .	Asuma		
Row	. .	Dua		
Run	. .	Oalla		
Sun	Itōkĭ . .	Aluba .	E wi . .	Wăigh !
Spent	Mŏh . .	. .	. .	Wham-lōh
Spirit (evil)	Moh-wal-labi .	. .	Elimbăh .	Dē-aī bŭ
Star	Jēttē-wāllĭ .	Gingatti .	Sūmbĭ .	Nÿ-ăh
South	Op-wōă			
Sea	Ilō-hăh . .	Miraba yndin	Mānÿa-modĕmă	U-rūh
Smoke	E-ū-tŭ . .	I tutu .	I-tŭ-tŭ .	Nā-cā-lōh
Shadow	Erikĕ-rīkĭ .	Idinga-idinga	E-luī-gĕ .	I-rī-wăh
Stream (a)	Sī-sēp-păh .	. .	Mōhī-mosālĭ	Mē-lŭb-nēh
Spring (water)	. .	Miraba tongo	E-sŏ-ni mōmbŏ	Nÿn gŭeh
Sunrise	Obădĭ chi-chu iŏ	Idaba .	I-live wangah	Nī-ÿ-ī rū
Sunset	Wato . .	Ibiamo .	Mōmbĭ-sĕ-mūnă rībă	Wi rĭ
Shrub	. .	. .	. .	Pītĕ
Stone	I-tĕ . .	Dalli . .	. .	Sī ŏh
Spoon	. .	Jui . .	Ngō-lăh .	Mī-nāh
Sword	. .	Pumakau .	Pō-cŏh .	Kōp-lĭ
Spear	. .	Jungoh .	Wī-cōn-gŏh	Plī-ō-bŏh
Sling	Em-pūllă			
Saw (a)	. .	Sano		
Sail (a)	Lūăh . .	Bunga .	Būu-găb .	Brū-kŏh
Sister	Bū-ī-tăm			
Servant	O-bŏ-lī-yŭ .	Ettatti andabo		
Stranger	Bū-rī-bă .	. .	. .	Dābĭ
Slave, domestic	. .	Me kum-bi .	Mō-kū-mĭ .	Kī
Singing man	. .	. .	. .	Blīo
Blacksmith	. .	. .	. .	U-mū-na (K)
Skiu	Lūt-tŭ . .	Jibo . .	. .	Dĕk-kū (K)
Side	Dī-kēk-kŏ .	Passa aqubo	. .	Pō-rō qŭe (K)
Spittle	Tū-ā-ĭ . .	Mi-borri .	. .	O-pū-tū-dŭ, K
Smell	O-mō-ăh .	Imunba bobi	. .	E-pē-nū (K)
Sheep	En-chod-dŭ .	Bur-ri .	Būlūmbŏ-cālla	Bōgrăh (K)

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Squirrel	Būsōpĭ			
Ditto, flying	I-bā-hĕ			
Shark	En-co-pă	Dom	I hūngŭ	Kī ăh (K)
Snake	Nāp-pă	Yama-babba		Sir rĕ (K)
Salt	Bōhăh	Wanga		
Sad	Achĭ ă mābă	Aganappi		
Safe	Ahă-ōpĭ			
Samo	Achi ă-kon no	Cupo		
Savage	In chū-pŏ			
Scarce	Okŏ-ko-nŏ			
Shady	E-rīkĭ rīkĭ			
Sharp	O-būk-kă	Di wouri		
Short	Bōn-tŭ-bōntŭ	Isunga		
Sick	E-rŭpă	Ma hoa		
Silent	Achĭ ă-tōlŏ	No topo		
Silly	Sī-ē-kĭ	Ju-ittiti gita		
Simple	At ă nabă ă			
Sinful	Bū-săl-lā-bĭ			
Single	Bū-lĭ			
Sleepy	Tō lŏ	Mapula coyo		
Slow	Achĭ-ri păhĭ	Ittiti bim as		
Smooth	Silū dĭ			
Small	Bū-kŏk-ōnŏ	Isarry		
Soft	O-bōttŭ-bŏttŭ	Botti botti		
Sour	Kīs-sĭ	Apuma		
Square	Os-sō-ăh			
Steady	Achī-ă-pā-hŭ			
Steep	A-pī-ym			
Still	Achī-ă-pā-hŭ			
Stupid	Sē-kĭ			
Sudden	Bāc-cā-sŏ			
Sure	At-ă-oŭ-di			
Sweet	Bō-no-cho	Bombo		
Spade		Dibono makara		
Shoe		Bitambi		
Stocking		Huma pinia		
Say		Topo		
Seize		Caca		
See		Umba		
Sell		Ardassi		
Sew		Banga		
Shake		Assuri		
Shame		Son		

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Shoot		Numiri		
Sleep		Coyo		
Sing		Tungo		
Sit		Garsi		
Sneeze		Gassi		
Snore		Gudi		
Speak		Topo		
Spit		Toi		
Split		Andi		
Steal		Giba		
Steer		A-om bi se		
Stretch		Nako-ki		
Strike		Di-pa		
Swallow		Nammis		
Sweep		Tuta		
Swim		Yavi		
Scorpion		Gynga		
Slowly		Son-son		
Thunder	E-kŭ-kŭ	Ungari aluba	Mō-kū-lĭ	Jĕh !
Time			Ilăh	A tĭ
To-day	Lē lŏ	Inga	Yă-wŭn	N'īn ĕĭ
To-morrow	O-băddĕ	Kara	Kēkĕ	N'nin-ei mai-rai
Town	Bē rĭă	Boa	Bū-kăh	Nā bŏh
Tree	Būtĭ	Bungo		Tŭ-ĭd-ū
Trader	Kōtă			Pĕnūpū-yōh, K
Tooth	Bēllŏ	Inumga		Nē ! (K)
Tongue	Lō-bĕb ŏ	Ilime	Ilemeh	Mē ! (K)
Throat	Nŷnkŏ	Iungo		Kī rŭ-ră (K)
Thigh	E-pās-sŏ	Dibibbi		Wā bĕb-bī, K
Toe	Bē-nĭs-sŭ	Mimmi		Bū yĕh (K)
Thumb	Euēllĕ			Dī a kŭ măh, K
Tail	Bū-sī-kĕ	Mundo		Nī-nĕ-qŭoh, K
Taste	O-sōl-lăh	Makika		Nā-ĕ-wō (K)
Touch	Sĭ-ā-ĭ	Sapa		Bŭ-ŭm-nāti-tegē (K)
Tears	Be-la	Mi sauri		Mī (K)
Turtle	E-sāp-pŭssŏ-pū	Eku	Ekŭ	Dū-bū-āh (K)
Tall	Būtŏ-bōtŏ	Baha		
Tame	Sēllŏ			
Thick	Bōtĕ-wōtĕ	Ynden-gita		
Thin	Bū-kŏk-ō-nŏ	Ittiti ynden		
Thirsty	Nān-ā-hă	Ungo-ganji		
Tidy	A-wēb wĕh			

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Tired	At-tū-pĭ	Dutu yaba embai		
True	Lēt-tĕ	Ititu sabonga		
Tailor		Momi banga		
Trowsers		Loki		
Thread		Iminga		
Taste (v)		Kichi		
Tear (v)		Yamasi		
Tell		Sanga		
Tie		Tynga		
Trample		Dakirri		
Tremble		Massua		
Twist		A-osso		
Thou art		Oa		
Uncle		Jiti		Mī kăh
Uncommon	Bī-ŏb-wī ŏh			
Ugly	Achĭ-wēb wăh	Sidoli		
Uneasy	Obōtŏ-bōtŏ			
Unfair	Sīchī wēb wĕh	Ititu bam		
Unfit	Achĭ wēb wĕh			
Unhappy	Nāmă bī hŏ			
Unjust	Alābă chĭ-līl-lĭ			
Unkind	At-ă-hā-ăin			
Unlike	A-tāl-ă hū dĭ	Ititu capo		
Unripe	Wīl ŏ-wīl ŏ			
Upper	Tūă pī lāmp wăh			
Upright	A-sō-chĭ			
Usual	Nī lās-să			
Village			Gymba lam	Wī-wĭ
Vein				Tēngnēmmĕ (K)
Voice	Ilă			O-pŭs-sū-rē (K)
Vain	En chaŭm			
Very	Entă hōdĭ-lāl lŏ			
Vicious	Būs-să-lābĭ			
Violent	Achĭ-būl-lă	Bambi		
World	O chŏ-mō mă		Manjah	Ablĭ-brē gă
Water	Bŏpĭ	Miraba	Mārī-bă	Nī!
Wind	Ewŭd-dūd-tŭ	Goh!	Engŏi	Dū-sŭ rŭh
Well of water			Mō-tūm-bă	Nymbĕ rēh
Water (hot)	Bōpi wā-hū-wĭ			
Week	Bīlŏ-rāhă-āl-ān hĕ		Sāmbĭ	Wymb-sōh

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Fishmen.
Woman	Wȳ sū-ŭm	Muto	Mytu	Okŏ-nū
Widow	Obĭ-ī-wĭ	Mi kusa		O-mĕ
Writer of charms				Kū!
Wrist				Kū-banĭ bōh (K)
Wing	A-pā-pă	Ma papa		Swā-nā-nĭ (K)
Wound (a)	E-pūd-dŏ	A kirri bango		Dē-ē-trŏh (K)
Waistcloth				Dā-rū (K)
Wild cat	Chī păh	Ingau yssari		Qūēh! (K)
White	Bō-tō-tŏh	Mi san gah		
Warm	Hū-wĭ	Ididdi		
Waste	O-kāp-pă			
Weak	Achĭ-bōb-ŏ			
Weary	Kātūpĭ			
Well	Chiŏ-lī bī hŏ	Bam		
Wet	Bō-tūt-tŭ	Isoppi		
Wicked	Būsăl-lā bĭ			
Wide	O bāttŏ-ōbāttŏ			
Wild	As-sāl ă būchŏ			
Wait		Talla		
Walk		Tanga		
Want		Mapulla		
Write		Tira		
We are		Biso		
Where		Dia huma		
Yam season	E sūbăh			
Youth (a)	Bō-cŏ-cŏ nŏ	Impisa	Mōkūtŭ	Dīp wĭ
Yellow	O-pŭ-ō tŭ			
Yams	Bīlō	Bas		
Young	Bōlăi	Isidum		
You are		Oa visi		
Yesterday		Caro		

NUMERALS.

	Edeeyah.	Dualla, or Cameroons.	Bimbia.	Bamboko.
1	Būllĭ . .	Hau . .	Yō-kŏ . . .	Ja yokoh
2	E-pă . .	Ibah . .	Bībăh . . .	Bia bib-aki
3	Bē tă . .	I-lal-lo .	Bī lā-lŏh . .	Bia bi-la-lo
4	Bī-ēl-lĕ . .	Inai . .	Bī nī . . .	Bia-bini
5	Bētŏ . .	Bitamo .	Bī tā nŏh . .	Bia bitāh
6	Rāhă . .	Ma tomba .	Mō-tū-băh . .	Bia motobah
7	Rāh-lă-wūllĭ .	Samba .	Sȳ-ām-băi . .	Bia disamba
8	Bī-ēllă-ki-tōpă	Sombi .	Sombai . .	Bia wanibi
9	Bī-ēllă-kī-tōpă-lā bullĭ	Dibu . .	Dī bū kă . .	Bia bi bu ka
10	Bī-ŭ . .	Dum . .	I-sāc-că . .	Bia bi umi
11	Bī-ūl-lă-wūllĭ .	Dum di wa .	Isāccă-nā Yokŏ	
12	Bī-ă-bȳ-pă .	Dum di bas .	Isāccă nā bībăh	
13	Bī-ū-lă-bē tă .	. .	Isāccă-nā-bī lā-lŏh	
14	Bī-ū-lă-bī-ēl-lĕ .	. .	Isacca-na-Bini	
15	E-bĭ-ē-ŏ . .	. .	Isāccă-nā-bītānŏh	
16	. .	. .	Isāccă na Motū băh	
17	. .	. .	Isāccā nă sȳ-āmbăi	
18	. .	. .	Isāccă nā ī sōmbăi	
19	. .	. .	Isacca na di buka	
20	Ichĭ . . .	. .	Dŭh!	
30	. .	. .	Sū lā-lŏh	
40	Bāchĭ-la-pă .	. .	Sūnĭ	
50	Bō-rā-pă . .	. .	Sū-tā-nŏh	
60	. .	. .	Mōt ō băh	
70	. .	. .	Sȳ-ām-băi	
90	. .	. .	E bū căh	
100	Bērră wītŏ .	. .	E-bŭ-kĭ-ăh	
200	Bī rȳ-pă . .	. .	Bī bĭa wē băh	
300	Bērră-bī tă .	. .	Bī bōkĭ-ī-lā-lŏh	
400	Bērră-bī-ēllĕ .	. .	Bībokĭ-ī bī nĭ	
500	. .	. .	Bībōkĭ-ī-bī tā nŏh	

ON THE KRU, EDEEYAH, AND BIMBIA LANGUAGES.

By R. G. Latham, M.D.

The first of these vocabularies is that of the Kru language, or the language of the Krumen, of the Grand Bassa, between Cape Mesurado and Cape Palmas.

The value of any philological *data* for these parts may be measured by the fact, that, with the exception of the sterile tracts between Benguela and the Orange River, on the west, and the so-called kingdoms of Inhambane, Sabra, Sofala, Manica, and Botonga, between Delagoa Bay and the Mozambiqne, on the east coast of Africa, no portion of the whole sea-board of that continent is so little known to the ethnographical philologist as the whole tract between the Sherbro River and the Gold Coast. North and south of this line we have, comparatively speakiug, a sufficiency of materials for the purposes of a rough philology, in the vocabularies for the tribes around Sierra Leone and the Ashanti country, respectively; for the intermediate tract we have, independent of Captain Allen's and Dr. Thomson's vocabulary, the following *data* only.

1. A Kru vocabulary, collected by Mrs. Kilham, at Sierra Leone, republished in the *Outline of a Vocabulary of a few of the Principal Languages of Western and Central Africa, compiled for the use of the Niger Expedition.*—London, 1841. About 90 words.

2. A Bassa vocabulary. *Ditto.* About 90 words.

3. A Grebo translation of the Gospels. Published by the American Missionary Society, at Cape Palmas. This is known to the present writer by report only.

That the Bassa and Kru are dialects of one and the same language is evident from the most cursory inspection of Mrs. Kilham's glossaries; and as such they are treated by Dr. Pri-

chard, in the last edition of his African volume of the Physical History of Mankind.

That the vocabulary of Captain Allen and Dr. Thomson represents a slightly different dialect of the same language is evident from the following table.

English.	T. Fishman.	K. Kru.	K. Bassa:
Sun.	waih	guiro	iuro
Moon	ohoh	tsho	tsho
Star.	nyah	napi	dre
Water	ni	ni	nieh
Fire.	nah.	na	ni
Farm	criboh	kri*	gre
Tree	tucau	du	tshu
Stone	siou.	sobu	sou
House	kai.	sera	boh
Man	ulah	nigu	gai
,,	haiuu		biot
Woman	osonu	niono	ni, mai
Head	debbu	dubo	dru
Eye	gi		iri
Ear.	nugweh		du
Mouth	woh		mong
Foot	bope	song	so
Arm	soh.		soh=*hand*
Pig.	boi.		beni
Cow	sioh.	bili	bliine
Sheep	boquah	baua	blabi
Fish	ninu	ni	zimi

And here it may be observed, that the Fishman word for *sun* (*waih*), although different from the Kru and Bassa (*guiro, iuro*), is exactly the same as the following:—

English	sun.	Tapua	ehi.
Ashanti	ouia.	Popo	onei.
Fanti	euia.	Ibu	aua.

and probably the same as the Bongo word *veia* = *fire*.

The substantial correctness of the three vocabularies is ensured by such a comparison of the previous one; a comparison which, nevertheless, still leaves the probability of certain accidental and unavoidable errors in detail. Thus, in Mrs. Kilham's voca-

* Kura=field; Kru of Kilham.

bulary, three different ideas are expressed by the words *dru* and *dre*.

Head = dru - - Bassa.
Star = dre - - Bassa.
Wash = dre - - Bassa.

This is unlikely; at least it is less likely than an error on the part of the Collector.

From these three vocabularies we are enabled to draw a few inferences, even in regard to the grammatical structure of the Kru dialect.

1. It is not difficult to see that composition occurs to a considerable extent in the Kru language.

(1.) *Gi*=eye, *gi*-nani=*eye*-brow, *gi*-wawi=*eye*-lash.

(2.) *Dib*-wi=child, *dib*-rube=infant.

(3.) *Ni*=water, *ne*-lubruh=stream, *nyn*-gueh=spring.

2. Respecting the termination *be, ba, pa*, two statements may be made.

1 (*a.*) That it is no part of the root, or original words.

Head = du-*bo*, Kru; dru, Bassa.
Boiler = ja-*bi*, Kru; jiniai, Bassa.

2 (*b.*) That it appears in other African languages with a similar non-radical power.

Good=*oia*, Ashanti; *oie*, Fanti; *oie*-pa, Bassa, of Kilham.

Take=*nauk*-bi, Kru, of Kilham; *neke*, Tapua.

3. Respecting *n* at the beginning of words, it may be asserted that it is frequently non-radical.

Cook = *na*-pinde, Kru; pie, Bassa.
Drink = *na*-ni, Kru; na, Bassa.
Give = *ni*-niem, Kru; uiio, Bassa.
Hear = *na*-uru, Kru; uru, Bassa.
See = *na*-jio, Kru; je, Bassa.
Speak = *na*-uru, Kru; uru, Bassa.

Observe, that it is the Kru dialect where the *n* occurs, and that it is the verbs that exhibit it.

4. Respecting *n* at the end of words, it may also be asserted it is frequently non-radical.

Cow = bili, Kru; bli*ne*, Bassa.

Further minutiæ of this kind may be worked out by the study of even the existing materials.

The broader question of the general ethnological affinities of the Kru dialects is the question, that, in the present state of our knowledge, is the most important.

There is every reason to believe, that, although we want information concerning the dialects of numerous localities on the Grain, Ivory, and Pepper Coasts, we are still in possession of a considerable amount of knowledge as to the affinities of the languages north and south of the Kru area.

It is not likely that, to the north, any language different in kind from those already known will be discovered between the Grain Coast and Sierra Leone, where we find the Bullom, Timmani, and Susu languages, of the great Mandingo class.

Nor is it likely that, to the south, any language different in kind from those already known will be discovered between the Grain Coast and the Gold Coast, where we find the Fanti, Ashanti, Acra, and other languages of the great Ashanti, or Ibo-Ashanti class.

Furthermore, even in respect to the interior, it is highly probable that we know, in *kind*, the languages to the back of the Kru country. The Asokko, or Sokko, a language of which specimens are given in the Mithridates, and which is allied to the Mandingo, is stated to be conterminous with the Ashanti; whilst the Kong and Garman numerals of Bowdich, representing languages of the interior, are Mandingo also.

Hence, it is probable that the languages of the Kru class are conterminous with the languages of the Mandingo and Ashanti class—those terms being taken with a general signification.

Now, without going farther than Mrs. Kilham's tables, we may safely make the three following statements.

1. That the Kru languages are by no means isolated; but that they have miscellaneous affinities with the languages with which they are conterminous, and with the language of the west coast of Africa in general.

2. That they have affinities with the Mandingo and Ashanti dialects more than with any others.

3. That the evidence of the following table is in favour of the Ashanti affinities being greater than the Mandingo.

English	bird.
Kru	nume.
Bassa	nah.
Moko	non.
Ibu	nnona.
Rungo	nioni.
Kongo	nuni.
Koraba	inue.
English	bowl.
Kru	popa.
Timmani	apepe.
English	bowl.
Bassa	nru.
Ashanti	ok-ura.
Benin	fura.
Bullom	kara.
English	buy.
Kru	na-tie.
Ashanti	toh.
Fanti	to.
English	door.
Kru	bungo.
Ashanti	opuno.
Fanti	opun.
Akuonga	binio.
English	drink.
Kru	nani.
Bassa	na.
Fanti	nani.
Woloff	naun.
Akuonga	niu.
Congo	nna.
English	ear.
Bassa	du.
Popo	to.
Fot	ti.
Ako	eti.
Ibu	nti.
Akuonga	atu.
English	eat.
Kru	die.
Bassa	di.
Fanti	die.
Appa	ji.
Kissi	dui.
Timmani	di.
Congo	dia.
English	eye.
Bassa	iri.
Uhobo	aru.
English	fire.
Kru	na.
Bassa	ni.
Ako	inna.
Akuonga	ngo.
English	fish.
Kru	ni.
Mandingo	niiee.
Bambarra	nyegey.
Kossa	niei.
Pessa	nge.
English	fowl.
Kru	song.
Bassa	so.
Bambarra	sey.
Bullom	soh.
Congo	susu.
English	foot.
Bassa	boh.
Bullom	beh.
English	give.
Bassa	niio.
Popo	naue.
English	goat.
Bassa	uri.
Timmani	uir.
English	grass.
Bassa	pi.
Kissi	puio.
Bullom	pui.
English	hand.
Bassa	soh.
Ashanti	insa.
English	iron.
Bassa	ne.
Mandingo	ne.

English	large.
Bassa	otong.
Ashanti	otu.
Fanti	osu.
English	man.
Bassa	gai.
Mandingo	ke.
English	milk.
Bassa	noni.
Mandingo	nono.
Bambarra	nono.
Kossa	nniie.
Houssa	nono.
English	milk.
Kru	tsho.
Bassa	tsho.
Appa	oshia.
Tapua	etzoh.
Popo	sung.
English	mother.
Kru	ni.
Bassa	ne.
Ashanti	oni.
Popo	noi, &c.
English	mouth.
Bassa	mong.
Beniu	mieno.
English	oil.
Kru	kina.
Bullom	kuainsia.
English	rice.
Kru	kuo.
Fot	nkon.
Benin	koun.
English	rice.
Bassa	mo.
Ashanti	emo.
English	river.
Kru	ni-ba.
Mandingo	ba.
English	salt.
Kru	to.
Bassa	tong.
Popo	die.
English	see.
Kru	na-jio.
Bassa	je.
Appa	dia.
English	sheep.
Kru	blabi.
Bassa	bla.
Fulah	bali.
Kossa	bari.
English	sleep.
Kru	nama.
Bassa	moh.
Fanti	namu.
Karaba	namu.
English	stone.
Kru	sobre.
Bassa	sou.
Ashanti	obreo.
Fanti	abre.
Koreri	peh.
Kissi	poueh.
English	sun.
Kru	guiro.
Bassa	iuro.
Ako	orung.
English	take.
Kru	naukbi.
Tapua	neki.
Houssa	dauki.
English	tree.
Kru	tu.
Bassa	tsher.
Ashanti	iduia.
Fanti	undrea.
Karaba	iti.
English	well, good.
Bassa	uireir.
Woloff	uier.

English	woman.	English	wood.
Kru	niono.	Kru	nne.
Pepa	nenu.	Bassa	nic.
Popo	nanu.	Ashanti	eina.
		Fanti	eina.

* * * * * * * *

The Bimbia vocabulary of Captain Allen and Dr. Thomson is the first that has been laid before the world of the dialect of the River Bimbia.

Those of the dialects nearest to the Bimbia, in respect to their geographical position, are the following:—

For the North of the Bimbia. The following vocabularies of different Ibo languages:—

1. The Moko of Mrs. Kilham.
2. Ibo of Clapperton.
3. The Ibo of the Niger Vocabularies.
4. The Ibo of Mrs. Kilham.
5. A short MS. Bonny Vocabulary, with which the present writer has been favoured by Dr. Daniel.
6. A similar one of the Old Calebar.
7. The Karaba of Mrs. Kilham.
8. The Bouny Numerals of the Niger Vocabularies.
9. A few Ibo words in Dr. Daniel's MS., marked *Ibo not of the Qua.*
10. *Kleines Wörterbuch der Bonny-Sprache.* By Kœhler. Known only to me by a reference of Julg's to the *Monatsbericht der Berliner Geographische Gesellschaft.* No. 2, 3.
11. Robertsou's *Vocabulary of the Old Calebar Language.* Notes on Africa. London. 1819.
12. A few Honin words in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, vol. vii., p. 395.

For the South of the Bimbia. The following Vocabularies of the Cameroous and Gaboon Rivers.

1. A MS. Cameroons Vocabulary, in the Library of the Asiatic Society.
2. *Vocabulaire de la Langue Ponga.* Taken by M. Pacifique Henri Delaporte, on board the Malouine Corvette, from the mouth of Oino, nephew to the King of Gaboon. *Mémoires de la Société Ethnologique.* Tome II.

3. Bowdich's Empooqwa Numerals. Bowdich's *Ashanti*.

3, 4, 5, 6. The Sheekan, Kaylee, Oongoomo, and Oongabai Numerals of Bowdich. Allied to each other and to the Empoongwa.

6. The Rungo Vocabulary of Mrs. Kilham.

7. The Bongo Vocabulary of Mrs. Kilham.

8. The Cape Lopez Vocabulary of the Mithridates.

9. A Poongwee Grammar. By the American Missionaries. Known to me only through a reference of Mr. Bartlett's*.

With none of these, however, has the Bimbia any very close and unmistakeable affinity. Out of more than 20 words, the following are the only ones which it has in common with the Ponga of Delaporte.

English.	Bimbia.	Pongua.
Smoke	itutu	toutou
House	dawok	uao
Dog	umbah	mebona
Fish	lueh	uelé

As compared with a short list from the MS. Cameroons vocabularies, the Bimbia exhibits the following scanty affinities.

English	star.
Bimbia	sumbi.
Susu	tumbi.
Popo	sungvi.
Akuonga	mambi.
English	sun.
Bimbia	ewi.
Fante	enia.
Tapua	ehi.
Popo	euei.
Ibu	aiu.
English	moon.
Bimbia	engondah.
Bongo	gounti.
English	mother.
Bimbia	yiyeh.
Bornu	iai.
Ako	iia

English	sea.
Bimbia	manja.
.....	modena.
Bongo	madiba.
English	house.
Bimbia	dawoh.
Moko	ndap.
Benin	nlap.
English	man.
Bimbia	motu.
Cameroons	muto.
English	woman.
Bimbia	mytu.
Cameroons	muto.
English	brother.
Bimbia	nanyangami.
Karaba	üenakami.

* The Progress of Ethnology. By J. Russell Bartlett. New York, 1847.

English	hog.
Bimbia	engoah.
Bongo	guia.
English	fish.
Bimbia	lueh.
Uhobo	eli.

English	fire.
Bimbia	weah.
Bougo	veia.
Cameroons	vea.

* * * * * * * *

The Edeeyah vocabulary of Captain Allen and Dr. Thomson represents one of the dialects of Fernando Po, and, like the Bimbia, is the first of its kind that has been laid before the world.

Its origin must, of course, be sought for on the continent. Now, the languages of the sea-coast which are most likely to illustrate the Edeeyah are, geographically considered, the following:—

1. The Bimbia.
2. The Cameroons.
3. The Languages of the Delta of the Niger.

Nevertheless, its affinities are both scanty and miscellaneous.

English	sun.
Ediyah	itoki.
Kongo	utanga.
English	star.
Ediyah	jettewalle.
Appa	itia.
Moko	tete.
English	stone.
Rungo	ido.
Akuonga	ntei.
Karaba	itiut.
English	man.
Ediyah	bulah.
Kouri	abalu.
English	brother.
Ediyah	bunuuom.
Fanti	mnnua.
English	head.
Ediyah	etua.
Tapua	tah.
Akuonga	ete.
English	forehead.
Ediyah	epullu.
Bullom	bull=head.
Kissi	buleng=do.

English	eye.
Ediyah	nokko.
Pessa	naiko.
Popo	nukee.
English	foot.
Ediyah	dikoto.
Karaba	ukut.
English	arm.
Ediyah	luboh.
Akuonga	uboh=hand.
English	hand.
Ediyah	biella.
Mandingo	bulo.
Bambarra	bulu.
English	sheep.
Ediyah	enchoddu.
Ako	aguta.
Uhobo	ogugedi.
English	bird.
Ediyah	sinodi.
Fulah	sundu.
English	oil.
Ediyah	bita.
Akuonga	baut.

* * * * * * * *

Upon the whole it is not safe, in the present state of our knowledge, to place any of the above-mentioned languages with any specific accuracy. That they have miscellaneous affinities is undoubted. These particular affinities have yet to be determined. It may also be added that the Edeeyah and Bimbia are more alike than the Kru and Edeeyah, or the Kru and Bimbia.

Upper Southwick Street,
January 21, 1848.

It is unfortunate that the Cameroons vocabulary, to which Dr. Latham had access, when comparing that language with the Bimbia, should have been so very scanty. The merest glance at the arranged vocabularies of the several languages now given, shews the evident affinity between the Dualla and Bimbia : take the following :

English.	Dualla.	Bimbia.
Fire	Ve-ah	Wēah
Father	Sango	Sangoh
Fish	Sueh	Lueh
Fowl	Ubah	Cubah
God	Aluba	Lobah
Night	Butu	Butui
Nail	Tonno	Toneh
Nose	Pimba	M'bimbah
Parrot	Engusu	Engosoh
Rain	Buah	Bu-ah
Rainbow	Munga	Yungo
Smoke	Itutu	Itutu
Sail	Bunga	Bungah
Slave	Me-kum-bi	Mokumbi
Town	Boa	Bu-kah
Turtle	Eku	Ekn

and numerous others. The dialect of the people of the Amboise Islands, is a subdivision of the Dualla. We subjoin a few words in which there is an approximation of the Edeeyah, Dualla, and Bimbia.

English.	Edeeyah.	Dualla.	Bimbia.
Eyelash . .	Ipappa . .	Ipupa-misu	
Face . .	Bosoh . .	Bousu	
Hair . .	I-sil-la . .	Iyau . .	Sowih
Hand . .	Bi-ella . .	Bia	
Night . .	Bochio . .	Butu . .	Butui
Nail . .	Entuko . .	Tonno . .	Toneh
Nice . .	Iludi . .	Idolli	
Paddle . .	Eneapi . .	Pyi . .	Paki
Parrot . .	Encu . .	Engusu .	Engosoh
Smoke . .	E-utu . .	Itutu . .	Itutu
Shadow . .	Eriki-riki .	Idinga-idinga	Elui-ge
Soft . .	Obottu-bottu .	Botti-botti	
Town . .	Beri . .	Boa . .	Bukah
Wing . .	Apapa . .	Mapapa	

So that in one part of the narrative, perhaps we have slightly underrated the philological affinities between the Edeeyahs and their neighbours.

It will be seen by looking at the short list of the Bamboko numerals, (for which and the Cameroons vocabulary, we are indebted to Mr. Lilley,) that it corresponds closely with the Dualla and Bimbia. T. R. H. T.

NATURAL HISTORY.

MAMMALIA.

Order I. PRIMATES.

Family I. Hominidæ.

Measurement of some of the West African Tribes.

Edeeyah, from examination of 15 males.

Height	5ft. $6\frac{1}{6}$ in.
Facial angle, 72°; most favourable, 74°5; least do., 70°.	
From occipital protuberance to nasal spine .	$13\frac{3}{4}$ in.
From meatus auditorius externus to the other	$13\frac{1}{2}$ in.
From trochanter major to the ground .	$32\frac{3}{8}$ in.
Round the chest	$37\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Krus, from examination of 9 males.

Height	5ft. $5\frac{1}{8}$ in.
Facial angle rather above 71°; most favourable, 74°; least do., 70°.	
From occipital protuberance to nasal spine .	14 in.
From meatus auditorius externus to the other	$13\frac{1}{2}$ in.
From trochanter major to the ground . .	$32\frac{7}{8}$ in.
Round the chest	$34\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Fishmen, from examination of 10 males.

Height	5ft. $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.
Facial angle not quite 71°; most favourable, 74°5; least do., 69°5.	
From occipital protuberance to nasal spine	$13\frac{9}{10}$ in.
From meatus auditorius externus to the other	$13\frac{1}{2}$ in.
From trochanter major to the ground .	33 in.
Round the chest	$36\frac{2}{3}$ in.

Mandingoes, from examination of 6 males.

Height	5ft 9 in.
Facial angle 72°; most favourable, 73°; least do., 71°.	
From occipital protuberance to nasal spine .	$13\frac{3}{4}$ in.
From meatus auditorius externus to the other	$13\frac{1}{2}$ in.
From trochanter major to the ground .	36 in.
Round the chest	$32\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Thus the Mandingoes are much the tallest of these four tribes, but with lesser dimensions of chest, and a comparatively greater length of lower extremities. The general proportions of the head, are nearly alike in all, as far as can be judged from measurements, taken in the living subject, laterally from one meatus auditorius externus to the other, and lengthways from the occipital protuberance to the nasal spine. As regards the facial angle, the Edeeyahs may be considered to hold the highest position; secondly, the Mandingoes; thirdly, the Krus; and lastly, the Fishmen.

We regret, that, in consequence of the superstitious fears of the other tribes, we were unable to procure their admeasurements.

Family II. Simiadæ.

Colobus Pennantii. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., May 8, 1838.)

Col. supra nigrescens, ad latera fulvescenti-rufus: subtùs flavescens; caudâ fusco-nigricante; genis albis.

Longitudo capitis-corporisque .	27 unc.	0 lin.
„ caudæ	29	0

Habitat. Fernando Po.

"The prevailing colour is bright rusty red; the head, back of the neck, and the central portion of the back, are black; the cheeks and throat white or dirty white; chest, fore part of the shoulders, the under parts of body and inuer side of the limbs are dirty yellow; inner side of the thighs whitish; the hairs of the tail are brownish black. The fur is long and not very glossy; that on the head and fore parts of the body being longest. There is no soft under fur; the hairs are of an uniform colour to the base, or at least in a very slight degree paler at that part. The portion of the back which is described as black, partakes slightly of the rusty hue which prevails over the other parts of the body; it occupies but a narrow portion of the back, and blends indistinctly into the rust colour. The lower parts of the limbs are blackish below the knees and elbows exterually, but within yellowish white.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Colobus Satanas. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., May 8, 1838.)

Col. niger; vellere longissimo.

Longitudo capitis corporisque .	31 unc.	0 lin.
„ caudæ	36	0

Habitat. Fernando Po. Called by the natives, Mūcho.

"It is of an uniform black colour. The longest hairs on the back measure ten inches. The fur is but slightly glossy, and the hairs are of an uniform colour to the base. There is no under fur.

Cercopithecus Erythrotis. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., May 8, 1838.)

Cerc. griseus; pilis corporis suprà flavo nigroque annulatis; gulâ genisque albis; brachiis nigrescentibus; caudâ splendidè rufâ, lineâ nigrescente per partem superiorem excurrente, apice nigrescente; regione anali auribusque rufis.

Longitudo capitis-corporisque . .	17 unc.	0 lin.
„ caudæ	23	0

Habitat. Fernando Po. Called by the natives, Mōbăh.

"The hairs on the upper parts of the body are black annulated with yellow; on the hinder parts of the back the yellow assumes a deep golden hue, but, unlike the Moustache monkey, the

black prevails over the yellow; on the sides of the body and the outer side of the hind legs, the hairs are greyish; and on the belly and inner side of the limbs they are greyish white: the fore legs are blackish externally; a dark mark extends backwards from the eye to the ear; below this on the cheeks there is a tuft of white hairs, beneath which the hairs are grizzled black and yellow; tip of the nose and ears, and greater part of the tail rusty red.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Cercopithecus Burnetti. (Gray, Ann. Nat. Hist., 1842, p. 256.)

Cerc. cinereo-nigro; gulâ, genis, abdomine, brachiis, femoribus intùs, cinereo-albidis; vellere longo, copioso, rigido, inferiorè pallido; caudâ pilis flavescenti-fuscis indutâ.

Longitudo capitis, corporisque, 19 unc. 0 lin.

Habitat. Fernando Po.

"The prevailing colour is greyish black; head, neck, and upper part of the back, yellow dotted; throat, cheeks, abdomen, inner sides of fore legs and thighs, greyish white; face black; hair of the cheek and forehead yellow, with a small tuft of black hair over each eye; fur very thick, hairs long, rather rigid, pale at the base, then greyish black; those of the head, neck, and upper part of the back and base of the tail, with two or three broad yellow-brown subterminal bands. It was named by Mr. Gray, Burnetti, in compliment to Sir William Burnett, the distinguished Medical Director-General of Her Majesty's Navy.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Cercopithecus Pogonias. (Benuet, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1833.)

Cerc. nigrescens, albo punctulatus; dorso medio, prymnâ, cauda supernè et ad apicem, fasciâque, temporali nigris; fronte, scelidibusque externè flavidis, nigro punctulatis; mystacibus longissimis, albido-flavescentibus; corpore caudâque subtùs, artubusque internè, flavido-rufis.

Long. corporis cum capite	. .	17 unc.
,, caudæ	. . . . .	24

Habitat. Fernando Po, Western Africa.

"The hairs of the upper surface are black, ringed with whitish, producing a grizzled appearance, which occupies the back part of the head, the fore part of the back, the sides, the outer surface of the anterior limbs and the posterior hands. In the middle of the back commences a broad black patch, which extends to the tail, and is continued along its upper surface for about two-thirds of the length of that organ, the remaining portion being black both above and below. On the forehead the hairs are yellowish ringed with black; a few black hairs occupy the middle line; and on each side passing from above the eye to the ear, is a broad patch of black. The whiskers expand very broadly on each side of the face; the hairs composing them are yellowish white, occasionally, but very sparingly, ringed with dusky black; the ear has internally a long tuft of hairs of the same colour with that of the whiskers; the outer side of the hinder limbs, the hands excepted, is yellowish grizzled with black, their colour being intermediate in intensity between the lightest portion of the sides and the whiskers; the under surface of the body, the insides of the limbs, and the under surface of the proximal two-third of the tail, are reddish yellow.

Specimens presented to the British Museum and Zoological Society, by Dr. Thomson.

Family IV. Lemuridæ.

Galago Alleni. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc., Lond., 1837.)

Gal. auribus permagnis, digitis perlongis; vellere intensè plumbeo, rufescente-lavato; corpore subtùs flavo lavato.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin		8 unc.	1 lin.
„	caudæ	10	0
„	auris	1	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Latitudo auris		0	11
Longitudo pollicis antepedum . .		0	6
„	digiti longissimi . . .	1	1
„	policis pedum posticorum .	0	7
„	digiti longissimi . . .	1	2
„	pedis postici a calce ad apicem digitorum . . .	2	11

Habitat. Fernando Po, Western Africa.

"This animal, which has four incisors in the upper jaw and six in the lower, is about the same size as the *Galago Senegalensis*, but may readily be distinguished from that species by the greater size of the ears, and the great length of the fingers and toes. In the colouring there is also a difference, *G. Senegalensis* being grey washed with yellow, whereas *G. Alleni* is of a deep slate grey, all the hairs of the upper part being of a rusty yellow at the apex, or, as on the fore-legs, rusty at the tip. The under parts of the body are of a paler hue than the upper, the hairs being of a dirty yellow colour at the tip; but, like those of the upper parts, they are of a slate grey for the greater portion of their length; on the throat and chin each hair is whitish at the apex. The hairs covering the feet are of a deep brown colour. The tail is dusky brown.

This animal was named Alleni by Mr. Waterhouse in honour of Captain W. Allen, R.N., who brought one to England on his first visit to the Niger.

A specimen was presented to the British Museum by Dr. Thomson.

Family VI. Vespertilionidæ.

Rhinolophus Martini. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb. 1843.)

Rhin. auribus magnis apud frontem inter se spatio angusto sejunctis; rostro fossâ oblongâ supernè, anticè quatuor appendiculis carneis, vix elevatis (duobus utrinque) tectâ: prosthematè nasali longitudinalitèr diviso; fossâ frontali posticè culmine semicirculari dense vellere induto, collimetatâ; caudâ longâ et cartilagine bifurcâ terminatâ; patagio ad pedes basim solummodo ducto; colore cinereo-fusco, subtùs canescente.

Long. tot.	3 unc.	5 lin.
Volatûs amplitudo	10	0
„ latitudo maxima . . .	2	4
Antebrachium	1	6
Auris	0	9
Caudæ	1	7

Habitat. Fernando Po.

"This species of *Rhinolophus* is remarkable for having the complicated fleshy appendages of the muzzle divided in the longitudinal direction. Each half of this apparatus is composed of two leaflets, the margins of which are free, though but little elevated; the foremost of these is shaped somewhat like the human ear, and terminates in front in a small prominent lobe, which is situated over the opening of the nostril; the second or hindmost leaflet on each side approaches to a circular form. Upon separating these four leaflets, a large pit is observable on the upper surface of the muzzle, and the hinder margin of this pit terminates in a nearly semicircular and slightly elevated fleshy ridge, which is densely covered with fur. The ears are large, rounded at the extremity, but inclining to a pointed form, and separated from each other on the top of the head by a space of about two and a half lines in width; on the inner side, and towards the base, is a narrow obliqne ridge; the tragus is about two and a half lines in length, narrow, rounded at the extremity, and somewhat dilated near the base on the outer margin. The wing and inter-femoral membranes join the foot at the base; the latter extends to the extremity of the tail, which terminates in a bifurcated cartilage; numerous minute papillæ are observable on the margin of the inter-femoral membrane. The general colour of the animal in spirit is grey-brown, bnt with an ashy tint on the under parts of the body, and is darker than that of the *Rhinolophus Hipposideros* of authors.

Rhinolophus Landeri. (Martin, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1837.)

Rhin. vellere molli, et pulchrè castaneo-rufescente; auribus acutis, patulis, erectis, ad latus exterius emarginatis, et lobo rotundato accessorio instructis; prosthemate duplice; anteriore bidentato cum scypho parvnlo ad basin anticam, hôc ferro-equino membranacco circumdato; prosthemate posteriore ad basin transversìm sinuato, ad apicem acuto; ferro equino membranaceo, lato, margine libero anticè bifido, pollico brevi, gracili, in membranâ subtùs per dimidium incluso; ungue parvulo; antibrachiis robustis; cruribus gracilibus; patagiis nigricantibus.

Longitudo corporis cum capite . .	1 unc.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ lin.
„ caudæ	0	9
„ aurium	0	$7\frac{1}{2}$
„ antibrachii	1	$7\frac{1}{2}$
„ cruris	0	8
„ calcanei	0	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Prosthematis longitudo . . .	0	2
Alarum amplitudo	9	0

Habitat. Fernando Po, Western Africa.

"This beautiful little species of Bat is a genuine *Rhinolophus;* the nasal appendages consist of a horse-shoe, a crest, and an elevated leaf. The horse-shoe is broad with indications of a double furrow; its outer margin is free and bifid anteriorly. In its centre is placed a little cup-like depression with an elevated rim, from the back of which rises a bifid crest, not much elevated; the larger apex is the posterior of the two. On each side of this crest and behind it, the skin continued from the horse-shoe, and forming the base of the leaf, is furrowed by two deep but unequal *sulci,* with a marked posterior ridge, elevated across the base of the leaf, which latter ends in a short acute lanceolate point; posteriorly it is covered with short hairs, anteriorly it is nearly naked. Its length is two lines. The ears are large, broad, and pointed; the outer margin is emarginated, and passes into a large rounded accessory lobe, closing the ear anteriorly. The *antibrachia* are short, the thumbs small, the *tibia* slender. The fur is soft and delicate, and of a fine light or rufous chestnut, a little darker on the middle of the back; the wings are blackish. Captain W. Allen, R.N., brought this animal to England in 1834.

Mr. Martin named it after the celebrated traveller, Richard Lander; and, by a strange coincidence, the specimen forwarded to the Zoological Society, London, by Dr. Thomson, was shot near Lander's grave. It is only met with in the more secluded parts of the woods at Fernando Po.

Kerivoula Poensis. (Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1842.)

Ker. flavescenti-cinerco; lateribus, splendido-flavescenti-albidis. Capiti, gula albescenti-cinereis; vellere nigrescenti inferiori; capite pilis albis extremo induto; corpori, pilis flavescenti-fuscis extremis.

Habitat. Abo on the Niger, where Dr. Thomson accidentally procured it, while firing at a specimen of the *Halcyon Senegalensis*, as mentioned in Vol. I. of the Narrative. Mr. Gray has by mistake named it *Poensis* instead of *Eboensis*. Prevailing colour, yellowish grey; the sides of the body bright yellowish white. Whitish grey on the head and neck; hair blackish at the base; with a white tip on the head, and yellowish brown tip on the body; ears moderate, half covered with close hair; tragus moderate, half ovate, blunt; heel-bone elongate, slender; thumb rather elongate, compressed.

Presented to the British Museum by Dr. Thomson.

Order II. FERÆ.

Family I. Felidæ.

Felis rutilus. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Sept. 1842.)

Fel. pilis brevibus adpressis; corpore suprà ferrugineo, ad latera indistinctè maculato, maculis parvulis, subtùs albido maculis rufo-nigricantibus ornato; caudâ brevi, immaculatâ, suprà obscurè rufâ, subtùs pallidiore.

Longitudo corporis circiter	. . .	36 unc.
„ caudæ	. . . . .	10

"The skin which furnishes the above characters was procured by Mr. L. Fraser, when at Sierra Leone, and was said to be from the Mandingo country. Unfortunately, like all the other skins brought from the interior for sale or barter, it is imperfect, wanting the head and lower parts of the limbs. In the shortness of the tail and in its nearly uniform colouring, it approaches the Lynxes.

Genetta Richardsoni. (Thomson, in Ann. Nat. Hist., 1842.)
Genetta Poensis. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1838.)

Gen. fulvescenti-fusca; dorso lineis nigris confluentibus et irregularibus maculis nigris crebrè adspersis; caudâ nigrâ, annulis fulvis interruptis.

Habitat. Fernando Po, Western Africa.

"On the back of the neck there are three or four slender longitudinal black lines, which are irregular and indistinct, especially near the head. On each side of these slender lines there is a broad irregular black mark, which commencing behind the ear runs backwards and outwards over the shoulders; here the slender black lines appear to divide, for as many as seven can be traced; the outermost of these divergo, and are soon broken into irregular spots, which are scattered over the sides of the body. The intermediate lines are also broken into oblong spots, excepting that line which runs along the spine of the back, which is uninterrupted, and becomes broader on the middle of the back. On the hinder half of the back there are on each side of and parallel with the spinal black mark, two lines formed by confluent spots. The sides of the neck are adorned with numerous oblong spots. The muzzle is black; there is a slender black line between the eyes, a yellow spot under the anterior angle of each eye; the tip of the muzzle is also yellow. The lips are blackish, and the eyes are encircled with black hairs; the hairs of the moustaches are brown, black, and brown. The ears are black at the base externally; internally they are covered with yellowish hairs. The limbs are brownish black. The tail is black; on the basal half there are five narrow yellowish rings, and on the apical half there are four narrow rings of a brownish colour, and somewhat indistinct. The fur is short, glossy, and adpressed.

This is rather a scarce animal at Fernando Po, and as the skin is considered one of the most sacred and valuable amulets or charms of the Edeeyahs, they are unwilling to part with it The small specimen in the British Museum, presented by Dr. Thomson, was skinned from the mouth, and is a proof of the ingenuity of that singular people.

Family III. Talpidæ.

Sorex Poensis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Dec., 1842.)

Sor. obscurè fuscus, corpore subtùs cinereo, pedibus nigrescentibus; auribus parvulis, distinctis; caudâ corpore breviori pilis obscuris adpressis, et setis longioribus adspersis.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin	3 unc.	3 lin.
„ „ caudæ . . .	1	10
„ tarsi digitorumque . .	0	6
„ ab apice rostri ad basin auris	0	10

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"This species somewhat resembles the *Sorex varius* of Smuts, but is of a deeper hue. The upper parts of the body are of a deep brown colour, rather indistinctly variegated with greyish; the body beneath is grey, but slightly washed, as it were, with dirty yellow. The ears are distinct, that is, not hidden by the fur, as in *S. tetragonurus*, and its allies, and the tail has long bristly hairs interspersed with the short adpressed fur, as in the subgenus *Crocidura* of Wägler.

Order IV. GLIRES.

Family I. Muridæ.

Mus Alleni. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1837.)

Mus. auribus parvulis, caudâ corpore cum capite, longiore, corpore suprà nigrescenti-fusco, subtùs cinereo; pedibus obscuris.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin .	1 unc.	$9\frac{1}{2}$ lin.
„ caudæ . . .	1	11
„ nostri ad basin auris .	0	7
„ tarsi digitorumque .	0	$7\frac{1}{4}$
„ auris . . .	0	3

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"This species is less than the harvest mouse (*Mus messorius*), and of a deeper colour than the common mouse (*Mus musculus*), being in fact almost black. The ears are smaller in proportion, and more distinctly clothed with hairs; the tarsi are covered with blackish hairs above; the toes are dirty white.

Mr. Waterhouse named this species after Captain (then Lieutenant) W. Allen, R.N., who procured it on his first visit to the Niger and Fernando Po.

Cricetomys Gambianus. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Jan., 1840.)

Cri. magnitudine corporis duplo, vel plus, majore quàm in *Mure decumano;* colore fère eodem; auribus mediocribus, pilis minutis vestitis; caudâ corpus cum capite æquante; pedibus mediocrè parvis; vellere brevi, adpresso et subrigido; colore cinerescenti-fusco; pedibus partibusque inferioribus sordidè albis; caudâ ad basin, pilis intensè fuscis, ad apicem, albis, obsitâ.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin .	16 unc.	0 lin.
„ „ basin auris .	2	9
„ tarsi digitorumque . . .	2	6
„ auris	0	11
„ caudæ	15	0

Habitat. Western Africa.

"The Gambian pouched-rat is about double the size of the common rat (*Mus decumanus*). In its colouring and proportions it greatly resembles that animal; the fur is rather harsher, and more scanty; the general colour of the upper parts of the body is a trifle paler than in *M. decumanus*. The head is tolerably long, and pointed; the ears of moderate size and rounded form; the feet are of moderate size; the tail is nearly equal to the head and body in length, thick at the base, covered with harsh, small, adpressed hairs, but these are not sufficiently numerous to hide the scales; about one-third of the tail, at the base, is of a deep brown colour; the hairs covering the remaining portion are pure white; and the skin itself has evidently been of a paler hue than on the basal part of the tail. The fur on the body is somewhat adpressed, and the hairs are glossy on the back; they are of an ashy grey colour at the base; the apical half of each is brownish yellow, but at the points many of them are brownish; many longer hairs, intermixed with the ordinary fur of the back, are almost entirely of a brownish-black colour. The whole of the under parts of the head and body, and inner sides of the limbs, are white; the hairs on the belly are rather scanty, and of an uniform colour, to the root; the fore feet are whitish, and the tarsi are white, but clouded with brown in the middle. The ears are but sparingly clothed with short hairs, which on the inner side are whitish, and on the outer brown.

It lives in holes in the ground. At Fernando Po its flesh is

much prized at the festive meetings of the Edeeyahs—and particularly at the feast observed after the death of one of the tribe—some of it, cooked, being always placed over the grave.

There is another somewhat similar, which we named, provisionally, *Aulocodus Poensis.*

Family IV. Sciurina.

Anomalurus Derbianus. (Gray, in Ann. Nat. Hist., 1842.)
Anomalurus Fraseri. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Sept., 1842.)

An. vellere longo, permolli; corpore supèr nigro; dorso flavescenti-fusco lavato; fronte incanescente; corpore infrà albo, vel albido; artubus intùs, patagio ad marginem et gutture fuliginoso tinctis.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin .		14 unc.	0 lin.
„ „ caudæ . . .		8	6
„ „ auris . . .		1	3
„ tarsi digitorumque . .		2	6

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"Spiny-tailed squirrel, blackish brown, grey grizzled; hairs dull black brown, with whitish tips; shoulders whitish; tail and feet black; tail round; chest, belly, inside of the limbs, to the edge of the membranes, greyish white; membranes nakedish below, like the back above, with a straight edge to the one between the back of the thighs and the tail, and a lobe supported by a cartilage in front; head, above and below, and the upper part of the neck, blackish grey; cutting teeth yellow.

This animal is abundant at Fernando: it moves about generally at sunset, and as in its flight from tree to tree the lateral membrane is expanded, it causes a singular appearance. The spiny formations beneath the tail are evidently for the purpose of assisting it in ascending the branches, or when stationary, in the erect posture, of supporting the body. The Edeeyahs call it I-bā hĕ.

Three specimens brought by Dr. Thomson were presented to the British Museum.

Sciurus Stangeri. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Sept., 1842.)

Sc. pilis longis et rigidis, nigro et flavescenti penicillatis; genis, gula, corporeque subtùs pilis sparsè obtectis, his plerumque pallidis; caudâ magnâ, nigro alboque annulatâ; auribusque parvulis; foramine infra-orbitali haud in canali educto.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin		12 unc.	0 lin.
„	caudæ	15	0
„	tarsi digitorumque . .	2	$8\frac{1}{2}$
„	auris	0	5

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"The most striking external characters of this species consist in its large tail, which is ringed with black and white; the crispness of the fur, and the semi-naked condition of the under parts of the body, the sides of the face, muzzle, throat, and inner sides of the limbs; all these parts are so sparingly clothed with hairs that the skin is visible. On the upper parts of the body there is scarcely any trace of the finer under fur, nearly all the hairs being of the same harsh character; they are black, broadly annulated with yellowish white or rusty yellow; on the fore parts of the body the former tint prevails, but the hinder parts may be described as black, freely pencilled with bright rusty yellow; on the hind limbs this last mentioned colour prevails, as well as on the upper side of the tarsus. The small adpressed hairs on the sides of the face are partly black and partly yellowish white; on the chest the hairs are for the most part whitish, and on the inner side of the limbs rusty yellow; on the belly the hairs are most of them yellowish white, annulated with black. The tail is very long and bushy; measuring to the end of the hair it exceeds the head and body in length; excepting quite at the base, where the tail is coloured like the body, all the hairs are black, broadly annulated with white, and the white on the upper surface forms bars or rings; these, however, become indistinct towards the apex. The ears are of moderate size, and rounded. The heel is rather sparingly clothed with hair.

It is one of the most common animals at Fernando Po, where the natives call it Bū-so-pĭ; they kill it with the sling,—in the use of which they are most dexterous.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Sciurus rufo-brachiatus. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Sept., 1842.)

Sc. pilis mediocritèr longis, subrigidis, nigro et flavescenti penicillatis; corpore subtùs sordidè flavo vel rufescenti-flavo; artubus infrà rufis; caudâ longâ, non valdè floccosâ, annulis nigris et albis, vel flavescenti-albis, ornatâ, ad basin plerumque rufescente; auribus parvulis; dentibus incisoribus longitudinalitèr subsulcatis.

Longitudo ab apice rostri, ad caudæ basin		8 unc.	6 lin.
„	caudæ	10	6
„	tarsi digitorumque . .	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
„	auris	0	$4\frac{1}{2}$

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"This species approaches very nearly to the *Sciurus annulatus* of authors, but is distinguishable by its richer colouring. The general tint of *Sc. annulatus* might be described as yellowish grey, whilst that of the present animal is rusty grey, and especially by the bright rust-like tint of the under side of the limbs, and the pale rust or rusty white colour of the belly. The heel is clothed with hair.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Sciurus erythrogenys. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Sept., 1842.)

Sc. suprâ rufescenti-fuscus, pilis nigro et rufescenti-penicillatis; genis rufis; gulâ, corpore subtùs, et artubus internè albis; caudâ quàm corpus breviore, nigrâ, albo-penicillatâ, pilis ad basin rufescentibus; auribus parvulis.

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin		8 unc.	6 lin.
„	caudæ	6	3
„	tarsi digitorumque . .	1	$10\frac{1}{2}$
„	auris	0	4

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"The bright rust-coloured cheeks, combined with the pure white colour of the under parts of the body and inner side of the limbs, will serve to distinguish this species. The fur is rather short and moderately soft, and on the upper parts of the body the hairs are black, inclining to greyish at the base, and broadly annulated with rich rusty yellow at or near the point. A shortish longitudinal pale mark is observable on each side of the

body near the shoulders. The feet are finely pencilled with black and yellowish white. The tail is short, and not very bushy, above black, and rather sparingly pencilled with white; upon separating the hairs, however, they are found to be of a pale rust-colour near the base, and along the mesial portion of the under side the tail is of a bright rusty red colour. The tarsus is naked nearly to the heel, but on the heel are a few hairs.

Presented to the British Museum by Dr. Thomson.

Order V. UNGULATA.

Family I. Bovidæ.

Antelope Ogilbyi. (Waterhouse, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.)
Cephalophorus Ogilbyi. (Gray, Ann. Nat. Hist., 1842.)

Ant. splendidè fuscescenti-aurata, subtùs pallidior, lineâ dorsali nigrâ; collo fusco lavato, caudâ brevi et floccosâ, nigrescente pilis albis subtùs interspersis.

Habitat. Fernando Po. Called by the natives, Chō-ŏh.

Splendid golden brown, beneath paler; face, ears, back of neck with scattered black rigid hairs, which are crowded together and form a broad dorsal line: feet above the hoofs and the front part of the legs blackish; horns short, conic, thick at the base, with five or six irregular cross ridges.

Specimens presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum, and Zoological Society of London.

Cephalophus melanotus. (The black-rumped Guevei, Gray, in Ann. Nat. Hist., 1846, p. 167.)

Ceph. cinereo fusco; gula, lateribusque palladiòribus; uropygio caudâque supra nigris; mento, pectore, abdomine, dorso, anteriori-bus femorum, caudâque infra, albis; vellere molli, pallidè cinereo.

"Grey-brown; throat and sides paler, rump and upper part of tail, black; chin, chest, abdomen, back, and front edges of thighs and under part of the tail, white; narrow streak over the eyes, whitish; feet like the back, fur soft, pale grey, intermixed with rather rigid black hairs.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Two specimens were presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Antelope.

During Captain Allen's excursion up the Cameroons River he procured the horns of a magnificent antelope, which Mr. Ogilby (in Proc. Zool. Soc., June, 1848,) believed to have been taken from *A. Eurycerus*. Mr. Mitchell, Secretary to the Society, thinks, however, it may be an entirely new, and hitherto undescribed species; in which opinion he is joined by Mr. Waterhouse. In the absence of further detail, we have not added the specific name.

Family IV. Dasypidæ.

Manis multi-scutata. (Gray, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb. 1843.)

Manis caudâ corpore multum longiore; squamarum dorsalium elongatarum tricuspidum, ad basin striatarum, seriebus 23.

Habitat. West Africa.

Mr. Fraser, who had two of these animals alive, under his notice, for some time at Fernando Po, has given a very interesting account of them, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1843, p. 53.

AVES.

Order. ACCIPITRES.

Family. Strix.

Genus. *Strix.*

Strix Poensis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Dec., 1842.)

Strix. rostro cærulescenti-corneo; facie albâ, disco plumarum, confertissimarum, textura holosericâ, circumdatâ—illis antice positis albis, postices flavis, ad basem pallentibus,—illis autèm genarum apicibus nigris; corpore supernè, e cervino flavo, albo et purpureo crebrè adsperso, plumarum omnium scapis bis terve albo guttatis cum spatio nigro, inter singulas guttas; colli, lateribus, flavis, et, ut apud dorsum guttatis; primariis et secundariis ferè obsoletè fasciatis, et sordidè purpureo alboque, sparsè guttatis; caudâ vix furcatâ, rubescenti-flavâ, fusco-fasciatâ, et sparsè albo guttatâ; corpore subtùs femoribusque flavescenti-

albis guttis triangularibus nigrescentibus, sparsè notatis tarsis lanugine brevi, albâ, ferè ad digitos sparsè tectis,—his nigris, pilis albis obsitis.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

A very scarce bird.

Order. PASSERES.

Family. Dentirostres.

Genus. *Lanius.*

Tephrodornis ocreatus. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1844.)

Teph. capite suprà genisquo fusco-atris, dorso toto alisque obscurè fusco-plumbeis, remigibus rectricibusque fusco-atris, extùs plumbeo limbatis, corpore toto inferno albo, gutturis pectorisque plumis cinereo strictè marginatis, alarum tectricibus infernis cinereis albo marginatis. Rostrum pedesque atri, acrotarsiis integris.

Total length, 6¾ inches; beak to gape 11 lines, to front 7 lines, breadth 3 lines, height 2½ lines; wing 3 inches 7 lines; medial rectrices 3 inches, external 2 inches 8 lines; tarsus 10 lines, middle toe 9 lines, hind ditto 7 lines.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"This bird approaches sufficiently near to the Indian genus *Tephrodornis*, to be classed with it; the only important structural differences being that the acrotarsia are entire and that the tail is slightly rounded. The beak resembles that of *T. Indica*, (Gray) but it is a trifle shorter; the nostrils are concealed by incumbent bristly feathers; the fourth, fifth, and sixth quills are nearly equal, the first three graduated, and the outer toe longer than the inner.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Collurio Smithii. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Coll. supernè niger, plumis scapularibus, guttâ apud primarias, secundariarum nonnullarum apicibus sic, et corpore subtùs rectricumque caudæ quatuor externarum apicibus, albis; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. 8 poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $3\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, $4\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Cape Coast.

Mr. Fraser so named it, in honour of Dr. Smith, the author of "Illustrations of the Zoology of South Africa."

Drymoica mentalis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Drym. suprà fusca, primariis ad marginem pallidioribus, subtùs rufescens, fronte, genisque rufo-castaneis, gulâ et lineâ angustâ superciliari albis; lineâ angustâ nigrâ inter gulam albam, genasque castaneas; cauda? rostri mandibulâ superiore nigrô, inferiore cornea; tarsis flavis.

Long. tot.? poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $2\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ?; tarsi I.

Habitat. Accra, West Africa.

Drymoica lateralis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Drymn. suprà fusca, lateribus cinerascentibus, subtùs alba, femoribus rufis, rectricibus caudæ subtùs saturatè cinereis, guttâ nigrâ proprè apices, apicibus albis.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{2}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, 2; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Accra, West Africa.

"Differt a *Drymoica Strangei* corpore suprà saturatiore, lateribus cinereis, caudâ magis gradatâ, cum colore albo apicali magis circumscripto, et obscuriore.

Drymoica Strangei. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Drym. suprà fusca, strigâ superciliari et corpore subtùs albis; rectricibus caudæ subtùs saturatè cinereis, guttâ nigrâ proprè apices, apicibus albis.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{4}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $4\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, 2; tarsi, 1.

Habitat. Cape Palmas, West Africa.

Drymoica ruficapilla. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb, 1843.)

Drym. vertice rufo, corpore suprà saturatè fusco, corpore toto inferiore et gulâ albis, dimidio femorum inferiore rufo; caudâ ut in *D. laterali*, at magis gradatâ; rostro nigro.

Long tot. $6\frac{3}{4}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{7}{8}$.
Habitat. River Nun, West Africa.

"This species differs from others of the genus here described, in having the white of the under parts extending to the nostrils, a rufous crown to the head, and a black beak.

Drymoica rufa. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)
Drym. suprà rufa; subtùs sordidè flava, rostro tarsisque flavis.
Habitat. River Niger, opposite Iddah.

Drymoica rufogularis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Drym. suprà fuliginosè-fusca, levitèr viridi tincta; gulâ pectoroque rufescentibus; abdomine, tectricibus alarum inferioribus et caudâ utrinque rectricibus tribus externis albis; rostro suprà nigro, subtùs flavo; tarsis carneis, iridibus pallidè; rufescenti fuscis.
Long. tot. $3\frac{3}{4}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $1\frac{3}{4}$; cauda, $1\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.
Habitat. Clarence, Fernando Po.

Drymoica uropygialis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Drym. suprà fusca, singulis plumis pallidiore marginatis, strigâ superciliari et corpore subtùs albis, lateribus et femoribus levitèr rufo-lavatis, uropygio subrufo; caudâ saturatè fuscâ, fasciâ perpallidè rufâ, alterâ nigrâ et apice albo, rostro fusco, tarsis flavis.
Long. tot. 4 poll.; rostri, $\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.
Habitat. Accra, West Africa.

Genus. *Muscicapa.*

Muscicapa Fraseri. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1844.)

Musc. capite, dorso alisque fuscis, ferrugineo tinctis, remigibus fuscis, primariis extùs basin versus obscurè ferrugineis, omnibus (1â et 2â exceptis) pogoniis internis ad basin pallidè rufis, uropygio, caudæ tectricibus, corporeque toto inferuo rufo-ferrugineis, gulâ pallidiore, rectricibus fuscis, 6 intermediis strictissimè, lateralibus largè, rufo terminatis, externo ferè omninò rufo. Rostrum latum, nigrum, pedes pallidè brunnei.

Total length, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches; beak to gape, 9 lines; to front, 6 lines; height, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lines; breadth at gape, 6 lines; wing, 3 inches 10 lines; medial rectrices, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches; external, 3 inches 1 line; tarsus, 10 lines; middle toe and claw, 9 lines; hind ditto, 7 lines.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"The rufous colouring of the plumage is very similar to that of *Tchitrea*, Less. (*Muscipeta*, Auct.), but the beak is much shorter and more triangular than in that genus. In its general structure and proportions this bird seems to approach the restricted genus *Muscicapa* more closely than any other group. The form of the beak is almost exactly that of the *Muscicapa latirostris*, Sw., of India, and the legs are much shorter than is usual in terrestrial birds. Notwithstanding these characters, Mr. Fraser's notes state, that 'this bird feeds on the ground, and has the motions and plump appearance of the robin.' The irides are hazel. The beak is strong, depressed, very broad, the sides straight when viewed from above, and the base furnished with bristles of moderate length. The first quill is subspurious, one inch long; the second is half an inch shorter than the third; the fourth is the longest. Tarsi short, the acrotarsia and paratarsia entire; outer toe slightly longer than the inner one, its first phalanx attached to the middle toe; claws curved, compressed, sharp; tail rounded.

Mr. Strickland named this species after Mr. Fraser, who brought that species and many other very interesting ones from West Africa.

Muscipeta tricolor. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Jan., 1843.)

Musc. cristâ et mento nitidè nigris; corpore superiore cinereo; inferiore rufo, rostro pedibusque pallidè cœruleis: cauda —?

Long. tot. —? poll.; rostri, $1\frac{3}{8}$; alæ, $3\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, —? tarsi, $\frac{5}{8}$.

Habitat. Clarence, Fernando Po.

Muscipeta Smithii. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Musc. corpore pallidè rufo, caudâ, alisque nigrescentibus, cinereo-lavatis; capite, collo, rostro, pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. $7\frac{3}{4}$ unc.; alæ, 3 unc. 4 lin.; rostri, a rietu ad apicem, 10 lin.; caudæ, 3 unc. 10 lin.

Habitat. Western Africa.

"The dimension above given of the tail of this bird includes the two central feathers, which are about half an inch longer than either of the others; these latter, when spread out, form a segment of a circle, the outermost feathers being the shortest. The head and neck are glossy black, but in certain lights exhibit a slight blueish tint; the whole body and wing coverts are of a rust colour, for the most part pale, but assuming a decided and rich hue on the abdomen; the tail and feathers of flight in the wings are of a deep brownish gray, but inclining to black. The bill is stout.

Anthus Gouldii. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb.,1843.)

Ant. supernè fuscus, subtùs pallidior tincturâ ferrugineâ, gulâ albâ, remigibus et tectricibus alarum ferrugineo-marginatis, caudâ corpore intensiore; rectrice externâ ferrugineâ; rostro pedibusque flavis.

Long. tot. 7 poll.; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alæ, $3\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, 3; tarsi, 1.

Habitat. Cape Palmas, West Africa.

Sylvicola superciliaris. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Jan., 1843.)

Syl. corpore superiore, et lateribus nitidè olivaceis; mento, gulâ, et abdomine medio sordidè albis; lineâ a naribus super oculos, lineâ suboculari, plumis auricularibus, humerorum margine, femoribus, crissoque splendidè flavis; spatio inter oculos rictumque fusco; rostro nigro, pedibus carneis.

Long. tot. 4 poll.; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Clarence, Fernando Po.

"The whole of the upper surface and sides of the body in this bird are of a bright olive colour; the chin, throat, and centre of the abdomen are dirty white; a yellow line runs from the nostril over the eye, and there is a mark under the eye of the same colour; the ears, edge of the shoulders, thighs and under tail-coverts are also bright yellow; the space between the eye and the gape is brown; the bill is black and the legs are flesh-colour.

Tchitrea atrochalybeia. (Thomson, in Ann. Nat. Hist., Vol. X., p. 104.)

Tchit. saturatè fulgescente-chalybeia-nigra, plumarum basi obscurè nigra; pennis caudâque nigris, extùs chalybeia-nigris marginatis.

Total length, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill, $\frac{3}{4}$; wing, $3\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$; middle tail feather, $5\frac{3}{4}$; the next exterior one, $3\frac{1}{4}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Deep shining steel-black, with the base of each feather dull black; quills and tail black, margined exteriorly with steel-black.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Genus. *Turdus.*

Prinia olivacea. (Stricklaud, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1844.)

Prin. suprà viridi-olivacea, remigibus fuscis, olivaceo limbatis, caudâ cuneatâ, rectricibus duobus intermediis fuscis, lateralibus albis, extùs fusco marginatis, extimo toto albo; mento corporeque toto inferno albido, pallidè flavo lavato. Rostrum pedesque fuscentes.

Total length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; beak to gape, 6 lines, to front, $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines; breadth, 2 lines; height, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines; wing, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; medial rectrices, 1 inch 10 lines; external, 1 inch 1 line; tarsus, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lines; middle toe, $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines; hind ditto, 5 lines.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"The aspect of this bird is that of a *Phylloscopus*, but the beak is longer, more depressed at the base, the culmen carinated, the wings short and rounded, the first quill subspurious, the fourth longest; tail much graduated, rectrices narrow; tarsi moderately long, acrotarsia scutate, toes slender, the outer longer than the inner. These characters induce me, (says Mr. Strickland,) to class the bird provisionally in the genus *Prinia*.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Prinia icterica. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1844.)

Prin. suprà flavo-olivacea, loris, superciliis, genis, margine alarum, tibiis, caudæque tectricibus infernis lætè flavis; mento, gulâ, pectore et abdomine albidis, pallidè isabellino-lavatis, hypochondriis flavo-olivaceis, rostro nigro, pedibus rubris.

"Total length, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches; beak to gape, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lines; to frout, 6 lines; breadth, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lines; height, $1\frac{1}{2}$ line; wing, 1 inch 11 lines; medial rectrices, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch; external, 1 inch; tarsus, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lines; middle toe, $6\frac{1}{2}$ lines; hind toe, $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Pitta Pulih. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Dec., 1842.)

Pitta, notâ nigrâ a mandibulæ superioris basi, super verticem usque ad collum eductâ, et utrinque notâ latâ cervinâ marginatâ; plumis auricularibus et colli lateribus nigris; dorso, tectricibusque alarum majoribus metallicè viridibus; tectricibus alarum minoribus, tectricibusque caudæ singulis, ad apices pallidè cœruleis, instar cyani; primariis, secundariis, rectricibusque caudæ nigris; primariis, tertiâ, quartâ, quintâ et sextâ per medium albo-fasciatis; gulâ ferè albâ corpore subtùs fuscescente-aurantiaco, rubido apud abdomen imum levitèr tincto; rostro, tarsis, digitis, unguibusque apparentèr rubris.

Habitat. Sierra Leone, West Africa.

"This species," says Mr. Fraser, "is most closely allied to *Pitta brachyura*, (Auct.) but differs from that bird in having the bill and feet red, a band over the eye, which is tawny, instead of olive brown; in the uniform colouring of the primaries, secondaries, and tail feathers, the two former not being tipped with white, nor the latter with green; and finally, in the absence of the red vent.

Sylvia badiceps. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Syl. (mas) vertice cinnamomino, plumis auricularibus et corpore superiore cinereis; alis caudâque e cinereo fuscis; genis, gulâ, tectricibusque alarum inferioribus albis; fasciâ pectorali

nigrâ; corpore inferiore cinereo, apud medium pallidiore. Iridibus e corylo-fuscis tarsis flavis.

Long. tot. $3\frac{10}{12}$ unc.; rostri, $6\frac{2}{12}$; alæ, $2\frac{2}{12}$; caudæ, $1\frac{6}{12}$; tarsi, $\frac{8}{12}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Cossypha Poensis. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1844.)

Cos. corpore suprà fuliginoso-fuseo, remigibus fuscis, omnibus (1â et 2â exceptis) basin versùs rufo-ferrugineis, sed scapis fuscis; rectricibus fuscis, tribus externis utriuque albo terminatis (qui color in rectricis extimæ pogonio externo obliquè versus basin producitur), corpore toto inferno ferrugineo, gulâ obscuriore. Rostrum atrum, pedes flavescentes.

"Total length, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches; beak to gape, 10 lines; to front, 7 lines; breadth, 4 lines; height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines; wing, 4 inches 2 lines; medial rectrices, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; external ditto, 3 inches 4 lines; tarsus, 1 inch; middle toe and claw, 1 inch; hind ditto, 8 lines; lateral toes, equal.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Ioxos inornatus. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Iox. fuscus, capitis et caudæ colore intensiore; corpore subtùs sordidè albescenti-fusco.

Long. tot. 8 poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $3\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, $3\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Cape Coast, West Africa.

Andropadus latirostris. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1844.)

And. corpore suprà olivaceo, remigibus fuscis, extùs viridi-olivascente, intùs albido, marginatis, rectricibus fusco-brunneis, olivaceo-limbatis; corpore subtùs olivascente, lateribus menti, alæ tectricibus infernis, et abdomine medio stramineis. Rostrum corneum, marginibus pallidis, pedes, unguesque pallescentes. Rostrum depressum, tomiorum dentibus obliquis 6 vel 7 utrinque; illis maxillæ distinctis, mandibulæ subobsoletis.

"Total length, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches; beak to gape, 11 lines; to front, 7 lines; breadth, 4 lines; height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines; wing, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches; medial rectrices, 3 inches; external, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches; tarsus, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; middle toe and claw, 8 lines; hind ditto, 6 lines.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"In this species the beak is considerably depressed, and formed like that of a *Muscicapa*; the teeth of the upper mandible are distinct and regular, but disappear about the middle of the beak. The lower mandible is also furnished with five or six serrations, but very low and indistinct. The wing is much rounded, the fifth quill being longest, and the rest graduated. The colour and texture of plumage are much like that of the East Indian *Pycnonotus flavirostris*. (Strickland.)

Described from specimens brought to England by Mr. Fraser.

Andropadus gracilirostris. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1844.)

And. corpore toto suprà olivaceo, remigibus primariis fuscis, extùs olivascente, intùs pallidè ochraceo limbatis, corpore subtus pallidè olivaceo-cinerascente, mento, gulâque, albidis, abdomine medio crissoque pallidè flaveseentibus, alarum tectricibus internis pallidè ochraceis. Rostrum, pedesque corneo fusco; rostrum longinsculum, turdinum, dentibus maxillæ duobus, mandibulæ nullis.

Total length, 7 inches; beak to gape, 10 lines; to front, 7 lines; breadth, 3 lines; height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines; wing, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches; medial rectrices, 3 inches 1 line; external, 2 inches 11 lines; tarsus, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lines; middle toe and claw, 9 lines; hind ditto, 6 lines.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"This species differs from the former one in several points of structure; the beak is considerably narrower at the base, and more slender; the upper mandible has only two dentations, with a faint trace of a third, and the lower mandible exhibits only a slight subterminal emargination. The wings also differ, being more pointed; the first quill is subspurious, and the second, third, and fourth, nearly equal the third longest. These two species agree, however, in the structure of the tail and feet, and in the texture, and almost in the colour of the plumage; the

rump feathers being dense, long, and downy as in the true *Pycnonoti*.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Family. Fissirostres.

Genus. *Hirundo*.

*Hirundo Nigrita**. (Thomson.)

Hir. subcærulea-nigra plerumque; mento subtùs albido; caudâ pennarum interiore marginibus albis, extremis nigris. Rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; alæ, $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. River Nun, West Africa; met with as high up as Abòh.

General plumage bluish black, with a white patch under the chin; the inner side of the five outer tail feathers, white in the upper three fourths, black in the remainder. The tail forms a segment of a circle, the two outer tail feathers being the longest.

Presented to the British Museum by Dr. Thomson.

Cypselus parvus. (Strickland, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.)

Plumage uniform mouse colour, chin whitish. It is probably the smallest species of its genus, the total length being only 6 inches; wing, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches; medial rectrices, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; external, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Habitat. Accra.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Platysteira castanea. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Platys. vertice genisque cinereis; mento albo; dorso, alis, supernè, gula et pectore castaneis; abdomine albo, appendiculis carnosis circum oculos rubris; rostro nigro; iridibus rufescenti-

* In speaking of this bird in Vol. I. of the narrative, as also of the *Porphyrio Alleni*, in Vol. II., we have inadvertently referred to the work in which they are figured, as by G. D. Mitchell; it is Gray and Mitchell's *Illustrated Genera of Birds*.

fuscis; tarsis cæruleo-purpurescentibus. Inter sexus haud coloris diversitas.

Long. tot. $3\frac{5}{10}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{6}{10}$; alæ, $2\frac{2}{10}$; caudæ, $\frac{8}{10}$; tarsi, $\frac{5}{10}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

"Found among the branches of the naked trees in June, sometimes in pairs; they are short and thick in form, the feathering being of a downy nature. Its note is short.

"This bird differs from Jardine and Selby's *Platyrhynchus Desmarestii*, in having the chesnut back and wings, and the short black tail.

Platysteira leucopygialis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Platys. (mas) capite, genis, collo, dorso, alis, caudâ et vittâ latâ pectorali, sic et femoribus e cæruleo nigris, uropygio, gulâ et abdomino albis.

Long. tot. 4 unc.; rostri, $\frac{6}{10}$; alæ, $2\frac{2}{10}$; caudæ, $\frac{9}{10}$; tarsi, $\frac{6}{10}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, Western Africa.

"Fleshy appendages round the eye, red; irides, red hazel; bill black; legs purplish. This bird differs from Jardine and Selby's *Platyrhynchus collaris*, in having a white rump; the wings entirely black; the band across the chest much broader, and the fleshy appendages round the eyes red.

Family. Conirostres.

Genus. *Fringilla.*

Ploceus collaris. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Ploc. vertice, capitis lateribus, et mento, nigris, torque collari lato, castaneo; rostro nigro, tarsis fuscescentibus, reliquis partibus aurantiaco, olivaceo et fuscescente variegatis, ferè ut in *Ploceo textore.* (Swains.)

Long. tot. $7\frac{5}{10}$ unc.; rostri, $1\frac{2}{10}$; alæ, 4; caudæ, $3\frac{1}{2}$; tarsis, $1\frac{1}{10}$.

Habitat. Island St. Thomas, West Africa.

"This bird differs from *P. textor*, in being of a greater size; in having the chesnut collar encircling the neck, and the general colouring of the body being less vivid.

Euplectes rufovelatus. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Eupl. (mas) vertice, et nuchâ, nitidè rubris, colore rubro in latera colli ducto; corpore in toto nigro; iridibus e corylo rubris, tarsis et rostro nigris.

Long. tot. 7 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ, 4; caudæ, $2\frac{5}{10}$; tarsi, 1.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Mr. Fraser says "A very good songster." These birds frequent the thick foliage of the higher trees, and are most active about 5 P.M.

Coccothraustes olivaceus. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Cocc. capite, collo, pectore, dorso, alarum tectricibus, corporisque lateribus saturatè olivacco-viridibus; hôc colore ad uropygium, femora et caudam, tectricibus alarum inferioribus, secundariis, rectricumque caudæ apicibus-flavis; primariis nigris, ad apicem flavescenti-albis; secundariis in mediâ parte nigris, ad marginem internum albis, ad apicem flavescentibus; rostro tarsisque flavis.

Long. tot. $7\frac{1}{4}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $2\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, 2; tarsi, $\frac{8}{12}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Amadina Poensis. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Amad. nitidè nigra, primariis guttatis, secundariis uropygio, plumisque lateribus albo-fasciatis; abdomine, tectricibus alarum inferioribus, crissoque albis; iridibus e corylo-fuscis; rostro cæruleo; tarsis nigris.

Long. tot. 4 unc.; rostri, $\frac{3}{8}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Amadina bicolor. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Amad. (mas) corpore superiore, pectore, et lateribus nigris; abdomine, tectricibus alarum inferioribus, crissoque albis; rostro cæruleo; tarsis nigris.

Long. tot. 4 unc.; rostri, $\frac{3}{8}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Cape Palmas, West Africa.

"Common in the roofs of the huts belonging to the Fishmen of Cape Palmas, in which situation they breed and commit much mischief, like our own domestic sparrow." It differs from the *Amad. Poensis* in the absence of the white markings on the wings, rump, and sides.

Nigrita fusconotus. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Oct., 1842.)

Nig. capite, collo, tectricibus caudæ, sic et rectricibus nitidè nigris; dorso, et plumis scapularibus cinereo-fuscis; alis, nigrescentibus; corpore inferiore sordidè albo; rostro tarsisque nigris, iridibus e corylo fuscis.

Long. tot. $4\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $2\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, 2; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa.

Estrilda rufopicta. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Est. supernè fusca, fronte, facie, gulâ, et pectore cum tectricibus caudæ vinaceis; hoc colore corpore reliquo inferiore, et caudæ supernè tinctis; alarum tectricibus inferioribus flavido-albis; guttis minutissimis perpaucis albis apud pectus; rostro rubro, culmine nigro.

Long. tot. $3\frac{3}{4}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $1\frac{7}{8}$; caudæ, $1\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Cape Coast, West Africa.

Family. TENUIROSTRES.

Genus. *Certhia.*

Nectarinia Stangeri.

Nect. flavescenti-subfusca nitidè supra, alis caudâque obscuriorè flavescente tinctis; maculâ coronariâ saturatè viridi imbricata, plumis posterioribus violaceis; umbra-fuscis subtùs tinctis purpuris; mento velveto-nigro; maculâ gulari flavescenti-viridi fimbriatâ linea maxillari intense viridi, educta pectore supra, ultimis plumis chalybeia-cæruleis saturatè circumclitis coccineis; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Nect. Stang. (Jardine, in Nat. Lib., Vol. XXXVI., p. 198.) Above, uniform deep yellowish umber-brown, darker on the wings and tail, shewing yellowish lights. Coronal patch reaching

to the line of the eyes, imbricated, deep green, posterior row of feathers violet; below dark umber brown, with purple lights; chin velvet black; gular patch yellowish green, bordered by a maxillary stripe of deep green, extends to the upper part of the breast, and has the last row of feathers deep steel blue, tipped with scarlet, appearing like a terminating scarlet thread; bill, tarsi, and feet black.

Length, 5 inches; bill to forehead, $\frac{7\frac{1}{2}}{10}$; wing to longest quill, 2 inches $\frac{6}{10}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po, West Africa, where it is one of the most interesting of the feathered race; when the papaw (*Papaya carica*) is in flower, its sweet juice is the favourite food of these and the other *Cinnyridæ*. The specimen from which Sir W. Jardine figured the *C. Stangeri*, was shot by Dr. Thomson, who presented it to Dr. Stanger, as also others to the British Museum.

Cinnyris Eboensis. (Thomson.) *Nectarinia Adelberti.* (Jard. Nat. Lib., Vol. XXXVI., p. 244.)

Cin. unicè flavescenti-umbra-fusca suprà, alis, femoribus, caudâque levitèr obscurioribus; maculâ coronariâ, imbricatâ saturatè viridi; mento infrà velveto-nigro, emarginato lineâ maxillari, profundè viridi; collo anteriorè, pectoreque flavescenti-melinis, fimbriatis subtèr obscuro-umbra-fuscis: abdomine lateribusque pallidè castaneis; rostri pedibusque nigris.

"Above, uniform yellowish umber brown, slightly darker on the wings and tail; coronal patch passing the line of the eyes, imbricated, deep green. Below, chin velvet black, bordered by a maxillary stripe of deep green; fore part of the neck and upper breast, straw-yellow, bordered on the lower edge by dark, umber brown; lower breast, belly, and sides pale chesnut-brown and under tail covers dark umber brown; bill, tarsi, and feet black.

Length, 4 inches $\frac{8}{10}$; bill to forehead, $\frac{7}{10}$, wing to longest quill, $\frac{4}{10}$.

Female, dark hair brown; on the quills and tail nearly umber brown; underneath pale yellowish grey, clearest in the middle of the belly; the feathers darker along the centre of each; bill, legs, and tarsi, dark umber brown.

Length, 4 inches $\frac{6}{10}$.

Habitat. Abòh, River Quorra, West Africa. A very scarce bird.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Nectarinia chloropygia. (Jardine, Nat. Hist. Nectarinidæ, p. 172.)

Above, rich emerald bronzed green; wings and tail brownish-black, former, with the edges of the feather, oil green, latter glossed with green. Below, chin velvet black; throat, neck and breast, emerald green, terminated by a narrow band of bluish green; lower breast with a band of scarlet red; belly, flanks, and under tail covers pale oil green; auxiliary tufts ample king's yellow; bill, tarsi, and feet, black.

Length, $4\frac{4}{10}$; bill to gape, $\frac{7}{10}$, wings to longest quill, 1 in. $\frac{9}{10}$.

Female, olive oil green; wings and tail umber brown. Below, chin yellowish white; breast and flanks more yellow, shading to pale but pure gamboge yellow in the middle of the belly; bill, tarsi, and feet dark umber brown.

Length, 3 inch. $\frac{8}{10}$; wings to longest quill, 1 inch $\frac{8}{10}$.

Habitat. Fernando Po.

From Mr. Fraser's collection.

Family. Syndactyli.

Genus. *Alcedo.*

Halcyon leucogaster. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Jan., 1843.)

Halc. vertice nigro et cœruleo alternatim fasciato, notâ grandi rufo ab utrâque nari oriente et mandibulæ inferioris basin circumdante, necnon aures, et capitis latera exinde super oculos tendente, et per latera colli, corporisque sic et alarum tectrices ductâ; dorso splendidè cœruleo, quo color colore tectrices alarum marginatæ, alæ, caudaque lavatæ sunt, gulâ, pectore et abdomine in medio albis; rostro pedibusque rubris.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{2}$ poll.; rostri, $1\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $2\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{3}$.

Habitat. Clarence, Fernando Po.

"Crown of the head alternately banded with blue and black; from each nostril commences a large patch of rufous, which

envelopes the base of the lower mandible, ears, and sides of the head, forms a broad stripe over the eye, and extends along the sides of the neck and body; and also over the under wing coverts; the back is ultramarine blue; the upper wing coverts are tipped, and the wings and tail glossed with the same hue; the throat and centre of the chest and abdomen are white; bill and feet red. This beautiful species is very closely allied to the *Halcyon cyanotis* (Swains.), but may be at once distinguished by the white about the abdomen.

Presented by Dr. Thomson to the British Museum.

Order. SCANSORES.

Genus. *Bucco.*

Bucco subsulphureus. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Jan., 1843.)

Buc. corpore superiore nigro, strigâ superciliari, necnon lineâ frontali sub oculos, et per genas tendente, sulphureis; spatio strigis inclusо nigro; corpore inferiore, alarum caudâque tectricibus, secundariis, sic et caudâ flavo-marginatis; alarum tectricibus inferioribus flavido-albis; iridibus corylaceis; rostro nigro, pedibus saturatè plumbeis.

Long. tot. $3\frac{3}{4}$ poll.; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat. Clarence, Fernando Po.

"The upper surface of the head and body is black; superciliary stripe, and one across the forehead, which passes under the eye and along the cheek, and the whole under surface, sulphureous; space between the superciliary and cheek stripes, black; upper wing and tail coverts, secondaries and tail, margined with yellow; under wing coverts, yellowish white; irides, hazel; bill black; legs deep lead colour.

Genus. *Corythaix.*

Zizorhis gigantea. Blue Plantain-eater. (Thomson.)

Zizorh. dorso et pectore, viridescenti-cærulcis; capite, et cristâ, nigris; abdomine flavescente, inferiorè, et femoribus cinnamominis; caudâ metallicè cærulcâ; nigra in extremis. Rostro flavescente; tarsis nigris.

Habitat. Fernando Po.

Back and upper part of the breast, greenish blue; head and crest, black; abdomen, yellowish, passing beneath into cinnamon-brown; thighs and vent, cinnamon-brown; tail blue, with lower half black; two outer tail feathers, yellowish in upper half; wings and wing covers, rich blue, with metallic tint; bill yellowish; legs and feet black.

Total length, 29½ inches; rostri, 1¾ inch; alæ, 14 inches; caudæ, 14½; tarsi, 2¼.

This handsome bird is found in the woods of Fernando Po, where it frequents trees of a good height, and with umbrageous covering; in the afternoon and evening its call resembles very much, Tuca, Tuca; it is difficult of approach.

Corythaix macroryncha. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1837.)

Cor. rostro prægandi aurantiaco, ad basin sanguineo; capite, cristâ, collo, pectoreque viridibus; cristâ ad apicem albâ, et purpurea notatâ; lineâ albâ infra oculos, excurrente; dorso, alisque, metallicè purpureis; primariis sanguineis nigro marginatis; caudâ supernè metallicè viridi; femoribus, caudâque subtùs nigris; tarsis nigris.

Long. tot. 14 poll.; rostri, 1¼; alæ, 6; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 1¼.

Habitat. Bimbia and Cameroons, West Africa.

"This species differs from the *C. persa*, in having sharp cutting edges to the mandibles; a purple line over the black of crest.

"The back and upper surface of the wings are of a deep purple-blue tint, exhibiting in certain parts greenish reflections. The primaries (with the exception of the first quill,) and the secondaries, (with the exception of the three or four innermost quills) are red, margined with black; the shafts of these feathers are also black. The outer primary is black, and the two or three following feathers are broadly margined externally with the same colour. All the wing feathers are black at the base; on the outermost feathers the black colouring occupies but little space, but in each successive feather it increases in extent. The feathers of the tail are of a very dark green colour above, inclining to black; beneath they are black, but exhibiting indistinct purple reflections. The rump, upper and under tail coverts, thighs, and

vent, are black, obscurely tinted with purple or green in parts. Tarsi black; eyes hazel.

Dr. Thomson procured specimens of this bird at Bimbia, in different stages of plumage; in one the crest was all green, in another, apparently older, the black line was visible above the green, and in a third this was surmounted by the purple. In all other particulars they were identical.

Presented to the British Museum.

Order. GALLINACEA.

Genus. *Columba.*

Treron crassirostris. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb., 1843.)

Trer. viridis; capite, collo, pectoreque cineraseenti-viridibus; ventre citrino; alarum tectricibus regione carpali vinaceo purpureis; remigibus fusco-nigrescentibus; caudâ nigrâ ad apicem latè cinereo-fasciata; rostro magno, pedibusque pallidis.

Long. tot. 12 unc.; alæ, $6\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, $4\frac{1}{4}$; rostri, 11 lin.

Habitat. Islands of St. Thomas and Rollas, West Africa, where it abounds, together with many other varieties of pigeons.

"This species is remarkable for its stout bill, which is of a very pale grayish colour, tinted with yellow on the upper surface at the base. The vinaceous patch at the angle of the wing is but of small extent; the primaries, secondaries, and some of the greater wing coverts are narrowly margined externally with bright yellow, and the vent and some of the under tail coverts, as well as the greater portion of the feathers covering the thighs, are of the same colour; the larger under tail coverts are of a reddish brown colour, and the feet are yellow.

Dr. Thomson sent a specimen to the Zoological Society's Museum, from which it was described by Mr. Fraser, and figured in his *Zoologia typica.* The food of this *Treron* was, in January, the small fruit of a species of *Capparis.*

Order. GRALLÆ.

Family. Macrodactyli.

Genus. *Fulica.*

Porphyrio Alleni. (Thomson, in Ann. Nat. Hist., Vol. X. 1842.)

Porphyr. capite, colloque subcæruleo-nigris; dorso, alisque, subviridi-olavaceis; uropygio subviridi-olivaceo, tincto subcæruleo-nigro; corpore subtùs hyacinthini-cærulco ventre albo; rostro rubido; frontali cæruleo.

Long. tot. 11¼ nnc.; rostri, 1¼; alæ, 6½; tarsi, 2 nnc. 1 lin.

Habitat. Iddah, River Niger.

Head and neck black tinged with blue; back and wings greenish olive tinged with bluish black; beneath the body indigo blue; vent white; bill reddish; frontlet bluish; legs and toes reddish.

This very pretty species was shot among the reeds, on the inundated Island opposite Iddah, called by Lander, English Island. The plumage of the young bird was brown with a well marked black line down the throat, with an arrow-shaped termination. Dr. Thomson called it *Alleni*, in honor of his distinguished commander, Captain W. Allen, R.N. It is figured in Gray and Mitchell's *Illustrated Genera of Birds.*

Presented to the British Museum.

Genus. *Glareola.*

Glareola cinerea. (Fraser, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Feb. 1843.)

Glar. supernè cinerea, collo rufo, corpore subtùs albo rubro tincto, lineâ nigrâ pone nares oriente sub oculos et per plumas auriculares albas ductâ, caudæ tectricibus albis; rectricibus caudæ singulis notâ nigrâ versus apicem; remigum primarum pogoniis internis albis; secundariis albis apicibus nigris; rostri ad basim flavo, apice nigro.

Long. tot. 6¼ poll.; rostri, ¾; alæ, 5½; caudæ, 2½; tarsi, ⅞.

Habitat. Banks of the mouth of the Nun River, West Africa.

"In some specimens (probably the young,) the black stripe on the side of the head, the rufous neck, and the red tinge on the under surface, is wanting.

Presented to the British Museum.

Family. PRESSIROSTRES.

Genus. *Tringa.*

Vanellus albiceps. (Gould, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1834.)

Van. capite, gula, alis in medio, uropygio, ventre, crissoque albis; faciei lateribus colloque purpurascenti-cinereis; scapularibus, remigibus prioribus tribus, caudæque dimidio apicali nigris.

Longitudo tot.	a rostri ad caudæ apicem . .	13 unc.
„	a rostri ad digitorum apicem .	15
„	alæ	8
„	caudæ	4
„	tarsi	3
„	femoris	3
„	rostri a rictu ad apicem . .	$1\frac{1}{2}$

Rostrum viridi-aurantiacum, ad apicem nigrum.

"Between the eye and the upper mandible is situated a fleshy substance, resembling that of the common cock, which hangs down at right angles with the beak; it is of an orange colour, and is narrow in form, being one inch and a-half long, and half an inch wide at the base, whence it gradually tapers throughout its whole length to the tip. The spur on the shoulders is strong and sharp, and is nearly an inch in length.

Habitat. River Quorra, West Africa.

Presented by Captain W. Allen, R.N., to the Zoological Society of London, from which specimen it was described, and since figured in Fraser's *Zoologia typica.*

PISCES.

Order. MALACOPTERYGIA ABDOMINALES.

Family. Salmones.

Genus. *Salmo.*

Myletes Allenii. (Bennet, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1834.)

Myl. oblongus; pinnâ dorsali primâ supra ventrales positâ. D. 10, O.A. 14, C. 19, P. 15, V. 9. River Niger.

"The form of *Myletes* (Cuvier), to which this fish belongs, has hitherto been only obtained in the Nile; the genus *Polypterus*, (Geoff.) originally observed in the Nile, seems to be limited to that river, the Senegal, and Niger. *Gymnarchus* (Cuvier) had also only been noticed in the Nile; it is also found in the Niger.

Order. PLECTOGNATHI.

Family. Gymnodotus.

Genus. *Tetraodon.*

Tetraodon striyosus. (Bennet, in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., June, 1834.)

Tetr. dorso hispido, nigrescente; ventre lateribusque lævibus, his albo nigroque longitudinalitèr lineatis, illo albo; pinnâ caudali quadratâ; pectoralibus latè rotundatis. D. 12, A. 9, P. 19, C. 8. River Niger.

Specimens of the above were presented by Captain W. Allen, R.N., to the Zoological Society, London.

Different species of *Cantharus, Lethrynus, Dentex, Sphyræna, Seriola, Vomer, Carangus, Thynnus, Axinurus, Chitodon, Exocetus, Zeus, Julis, Serranus,* &c., &c., were also procured by Dr. Thomson, most of which were presented to the Museum of the Royal Hospital, Haslar.

Remarks on drawings of some Fish sent by Capt. Allen, R.N., on his return from his first visit to the Niger in 1834.

"They exhibit the forms of *Lates* (Cuv.); *Mormyrus* (Ej.) *Sudis* (La Cep.); and *Notopterus* (Ej.); and thus tend in common with the specimens from the same expedition exhibited at the meeting of the Society on June 10th, 1834, (p. 45,)

to illustrate the analogy borne by the Fishes of the rivers of Western Africa to those of the Nile."

Vide, Zoological Society's Proceedings, 1834.

SHELLS.

Professor E. Forbes, of King's College, Loudon, has kindly furnished the subjoined list of shells collected by Dr. Stanger during the Niger Expedition.

Land Species.

Achatina purpurea, in River Nun, &c.
„ gulica (?); in River Sinoe.
„ rosea (?)

Fresh-water Species.

Neritina cafra; Fernando Po, at Waterfall Brook.
Melauia lævissima; same locality.
„ quadriseriata; same locality.
Galathea radiata; Niger.

Marine Species.

Purpura coronata; River Nun.
Fusus morio; Sierra Leone.
Buccinum plumbeum; Cape Coast.
Cerithium radula; Fernando Po.
„ granulatum; River Nun.
Conus papilionaceus; Sierra Leone.
„ prometheus; Sierra Leone.
Littorina punctata; Cape Coast Castle.
„ punctata, var.; River Sinoe.
„ punctata, var.; Fernando Po.
„ new (?); Fernando Po.
„ new (?); Nun River.
Patella pectinata; West Coast.
Bulla striata; Fernando Po.
Mytilus niger (Gmelin); mouth of the Nun.
Donax denticulatus; same locality.
„ rugosa; Cape Coast.
Cytherea tripla; mouth of the Nun.
Tellina Madagascariensis; Cape Coast.

Dr. Thomson's *Collection consisted of*—

Shells.	Habitat.	Shells.	Habitat.
Achatina . .	Niger.	Cinthia . .	Cameroons.
Arca . .	Bonavista.	Helix . .	Teneriffe.
Cerithium .	ditto.	Patella . .	Cameroons.
Bulimus . .	Niger.	Persica . .	ditto.
Purpura . .	Fernando Po.	Pyramidella .	ditto.
Lymnea . .	Do. River.	Littorina . .	ditto.
Neritina . .	ditto.	Trochus . .	ditto.
Spirula . .	Cameroons.	Cypræa . .	ditto.
Potamis . .	ditto.	Lepas . .	ditto.
Arca . .	ditto.	Voluta . .	ditto.
Murex . .	ditto.	Turbo . .	ditto.
Purpura . .	ditto.	Conus . .	ditto.

We regret to state that several cases of Insects, collected in the Niger, Fernando Po, Bimbia, &c., have been mislaid, and, we fear, lost.

THE END.

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